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CONSIDERATIONS

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CONTENTS

One World 3
Rosalind Sugerman

The Astrology of the Aquarian Age 17
Barbara Koval

Isaac Newton & the Septenary 25
Kennet Gillman

Robert & Bonnie Lee Blake 49
Virgina Reyer

Is this Relationship Likely to Survive? 53
Ruth Baker

Was my Offer Accepted? 55
Elaine Krengel

The Uranus Menace 57
Prier Wintle

Robert Zoller & the Alchabitius Primary Direction Method 81
Rumen Kolev

Dr. Jones' Methodology 90
Bob Makransky

These Considerations 2
Who? 16
Errata 47
Let's Consider 48
Zip Dobyns & Lois Rodden 79
Books Considered 93

These Considerations

♂ On 27th August 2003, close to the time of the new moon at 4º 02' ♍ (15:26:20 UT), this spaceship we live on will be closer to ♂ than at any time in recorded history. The last time ♂ was this near was more than 5,000 years ago. The planet's brilliance will almost double between August 1 and 27, at which time with a magnitude of -2.9 it will outshine everything else in the moonless night sky. The new moon besieged between ♃ and ♀ is not a good placement (both ♀ and ♃ tend to be out of sorts in ♍) and the close opposition to the lunation from ♂ and ♅ can only bring unexpected problems for the government—♀ ☍ the too-close ♂ is within 2º of the MC-IC at DC.

Related to the coming approach of ♂, let's add to the similarity we noted three issues ago[1] when George W. Bush's inauguration chart was compared with that of James K. Polk—both were sworn into office with ♂ opposing the Ascendant. We now learn that when Polk sent troops into Mexico he lied to the American people: announcing that U.S. troops were simply responding to a previous incursion by the Mexican army into the U.S. territory. The Mexican incursion was a myth, just like Iraq's 'weapons of mass destruction' as told by Dubya. The connection between the 11th and 43rd presidents ratchets up another notch … be thankful that Polk never had a second term!?

Two highly respected ladies are no longer with us. Zip Dobyns and Lois Rodden passed on in early June. Each enhanced astrology and their many achievements are recognized by just about every student of our craft. Their absence will create a major gap, at least temporarily, but the example of these two should stimulate us to continue their excellent efforts in research and data collection.

This *Considerations* contains something for most tastes. Gentle Rosalind Sugerman describes some past blood-up-to-the-ankles actions to remind us of earlier times when ♄ and ♇ were prominent in the sky; Barbara Koval predicts how living conditions and other factors will alter with the upcoming Aquarian Age; Prier Wintle describes the discovery of ♅ and how annual returns of the ☉ to its discovery position then tell us about later uranian events in our lives; Virgina Reyer has another astrological tale of a doomed relationship; Bob Makransky summarizes his favorite feature from Marc Edmund Jones' bag of novel techniques; Rumen Kolev demonstrates that differently named methods of direction are often identical; Ruth Baker and Elaine Krengel provide succinct worked examples of their Horary craft; and there's more on a variant of the standard Septenary that applies in the life of Isaac Newton but seems to be otherwise rarely observed. **Enjoy!**

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[1] *Considerations* XVII: 4, page 2.

One World

ROSALIND SUGERMAN

> *The Tigris-Euphrates valley ca. 3200 BC: "in towering temples, the members of a new type of heavenward-gazing priesthood invented writing, mathematical notation (both sexagesimal and decimal), and the beginnings of a true science of exact astronomical observation. Having remarked a mathematically calculable regularity in the passages of the planets through the constellations of the fixed stars, these first observers of the heavens conceived—in that specific period and place, for the first time in human history—the grandiose idea of a cosmic order of ever revolving cycles of celestial manifestation, with which it would be prudent for man to put himself in accord."*
>
> —Joseph Campbell, *The Mythic Image.*

AT ITS HEART, astrology is a truly grandiose idea[1]. In various forms, at different times, within different civilizations worldwide, astrology has been studied and practised for over 5,000 years. Like most truly great ideas it is a simple one: there is an inextricable relationship between humans and the solar system in which they live.[2]

As human societies develop and grow, as wealth and power shifts across space and during time, our cycles of becoming both ontogenetic and phylogenic, are inextricably linked with the cycles of heaven. While millions watched the televised events of 11th September 2001, the repercussions which followed; then listened as the media foretold that the world had changed for ever. Change is such a broad word, and though its meaning in the context of 911 is clear, its implication—never before was there such an event, never have we lived with such vulnerability to sudden violence and death—is less clear. Contemporary media does not encourage reflection.

On a fine, early morning of September 2001 a small group of well-financed and religiously-motivated men hijacked commercial planes from air spaces about north-eastern America. Two of these planes were flown to New York City and crashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Centre; one was flown to Washington, DC and crashed into the Pentagon. In the apocalyptic demolition 3,000 people died.

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[1] I have abbreviated Campbell's often unwieldy prose, but his meaning remains clear, and in accord with my own rather less authoritative one.

[2] Abiding in this age of space travel is the question of Star Babies—when a baby is born in space, what will his/her birth chart look like? And how would one interpret it? And will this seemingly inevitable event signal a new and utterly alien human being? Is it possible that in the act of leaving his solar system man will sever a cosmic umbilicus, becoming reborn as.... what? Travelers like Odysseus wandering the vast oceans of space, walking the endless beaches of starlight...

In his vengeance the most powerful man on earth spent $3-billion, beginning the 'war on terror' in Afghanistan where his enemies had found refuge. On 8th October the first bombs fell in Kabul, followed by armed incursion and more bombings. Yet Afghanistan was not enough. Or perhaps the president's advisers had a look at the Russian experience.

1919 saw the third and final Anglo-Afghan War begin and end (previous 1839-42 and 1878-80). It was also the year of a 'treaty of friendship' between the Afghans and the Bolshevik regime, Soviet Russia. In 1924 the Afghan king asked the Russians to bomb his enemies and the first of four incursions began. By 1979, when the Russians were *invited* to send military troops into Afghanistan, they at first declined then reluctantly decided they should do so (perhaps discovering that the then president, Amin, was surreptitiously trying to extort guns and money from both the U.S. and Saudi Arabia had something to do with it), the Russians had poured $50-billion in military and technological aid into the country to little coherent effect—though the description of a Russian civil servant ordering white traffic lines painted on every road in Kabul, only to find that camels ignore such distinctions, does provide a graphic insight into the state of the nation. Ahmad Shah Massoud, at university in the 1970s, described the Russian aid workers as unfailingly polite and helpful. When they crossed the border on Christmas Day, 1979, the Russian troops were welcomed with flowers.

During this nine-year war between Russia and Afghanistan, Ahmad Shah Massoud, the 'Lion of Panjshir' became the great hope of the Afghani people. He was fatally wounded by a suicide bomber on 9th September 2001, two days before the attack on the WTC. The prime and indeed only suspects: the Taliban with Osama Bin Laden.

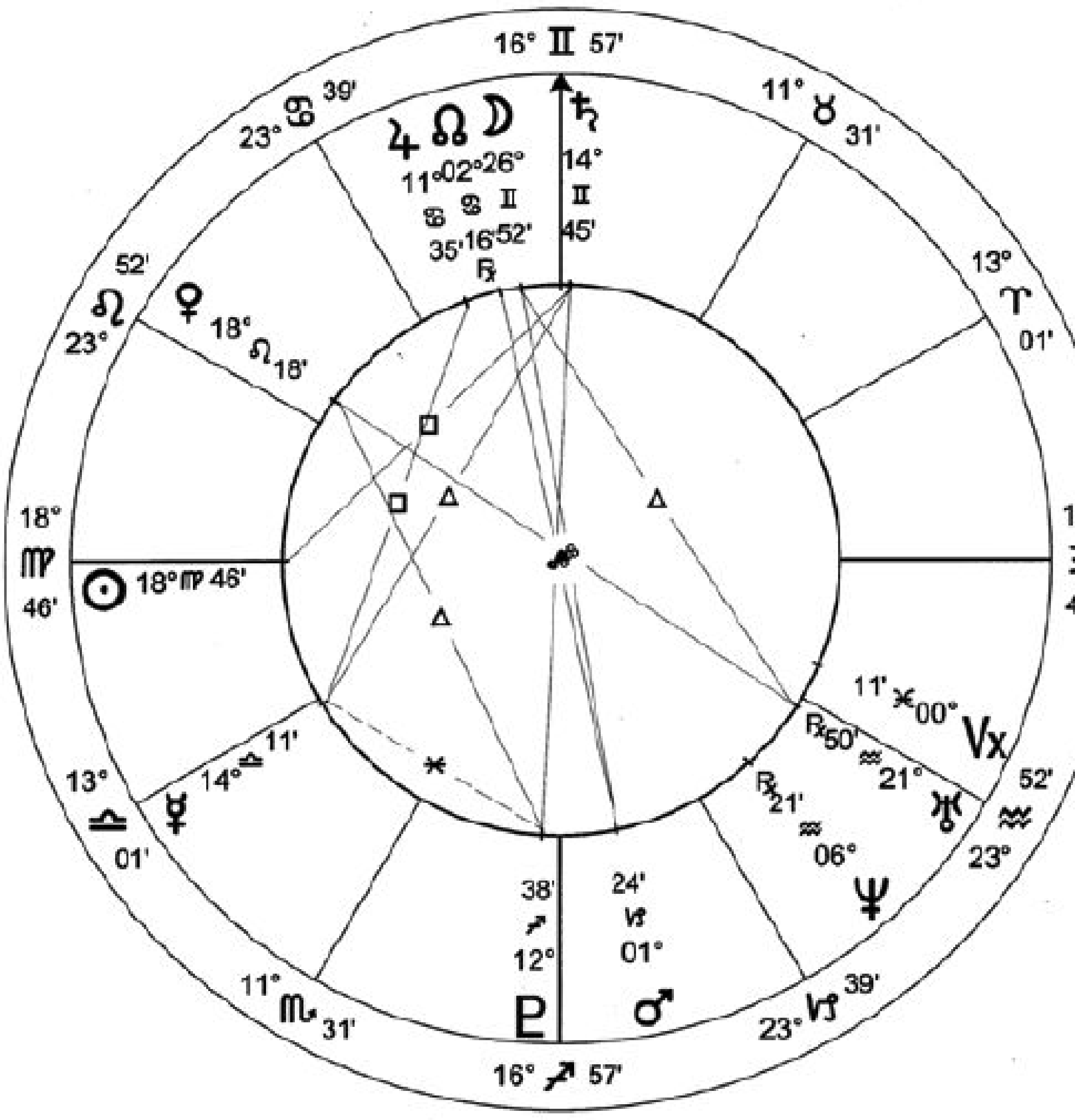
Early in 1988 President Gorbachev began withdrawing the Russian troops; the last soldier left Afghanistan on 15 February 1989. The civil war continued and in 1992, when a coalition of rebel forces set up as government in Kabul, the country was pretty much broke, busted, disgusted.

In a 1999 documentary about Afghanistan, a rueful Russian diplomat admitted it took the Russian government nine years to appreciate the definition made by Friedrich Engels (1820-1895) of the Afghans:

> *A courageous, energetic, freedom-loving people; war for them is an amusement, a welcome change from monotonous agricultural toil. Only their uncontrollable hatred of state power and their love of personal freedom prevent them from becoming a great power.*

Figure 1:

Sunrise on 911
6:37:17 AM EDT
11th September 2001
World Trade Center, New York:
42N42’42”
74W00’44”



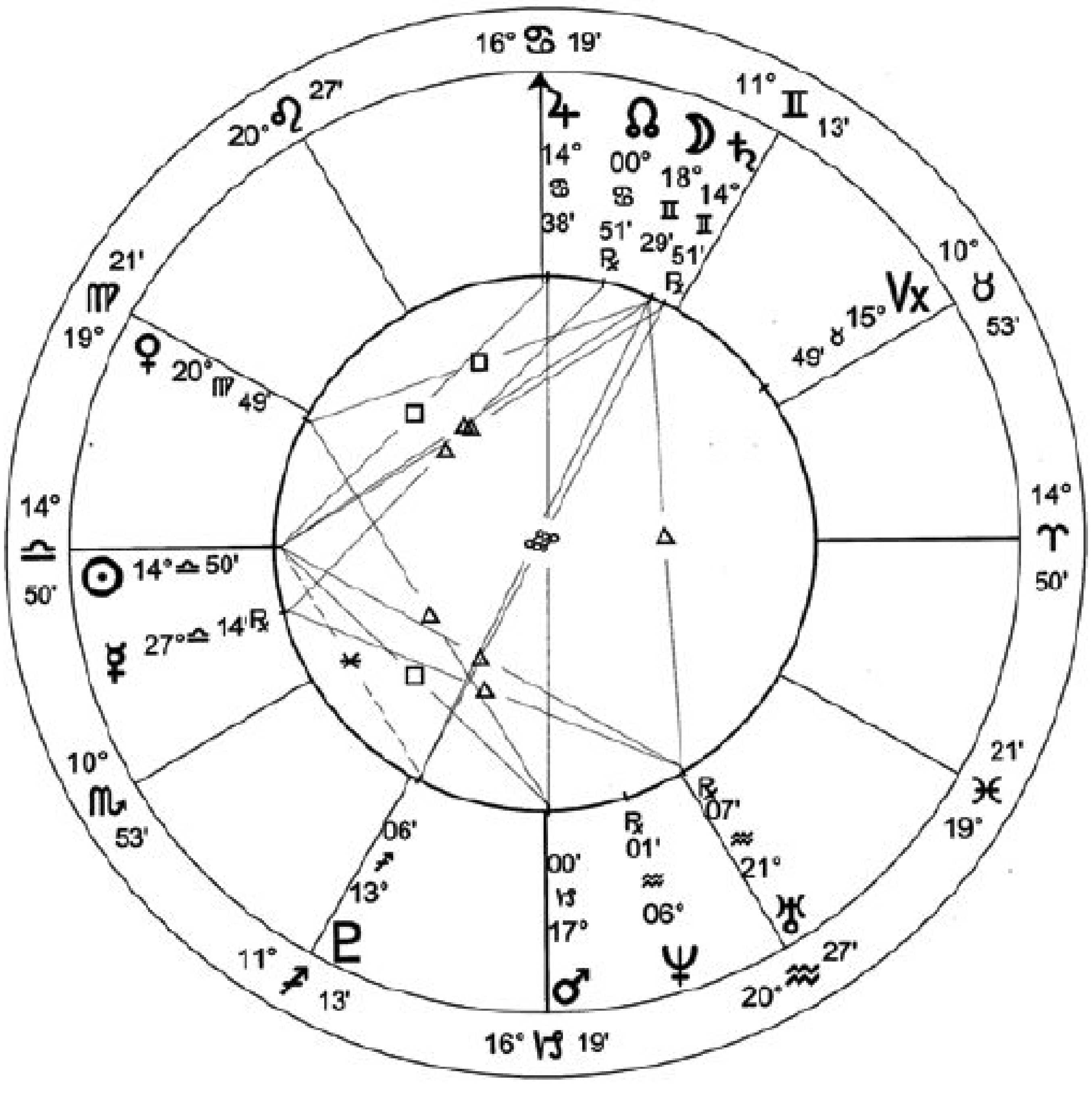


Figure 2:

U.S. Bomb Kabul

Sunrise,
8th October 2001
Kabul, Afghanistan
34N30, 69E10

Within a year from the first battle of his war on terror President Bush put together a ‘coalition of the willing’, and ignoring protests from the U.N., prepared to take on a more satisfactory foe: Sadam Hussein of Iraq. By early April 2003 his troops were in Baghdad. Amid the chaos of war an irreplaceable record of history fell victim: the museum of Baghdad was looted and broken, precious artifacts from the 5,000 years of Tigris-Euphrates civilizations—from observations, predictions made by those first astronomer-priests to exquisite artworks created during the apogee of the Abbassid period; all gone.

Yet the terrorism continues. Like a hydra it reappears in places as far apart as Bali and Saudi Arabia and Algeria. Yet we are not in a world totally strange, just one of difference in scale: a global society.

Should we take thought as astrologers to the events of 2001, look to the event charts for the terrorist attack and for the beginning of the war on terror: the findings are a fascinating mix of the predictable and the curious. ♄ and ♇ coming together as harbingers of violence and death is a certain signature; but then what are the ☉ and ♃ doing here as the first bombs fall in Afghanistan? Has the world indeed changed forever? Well no, it has not. Here follow some fascinating charts, the historic events they signify, which together provide certain illustration of the integrity of our solar system. We may not be in accord with terrorism, but we are most assuredly in accord with the cycles of heaven. And the world has definitely not yet changed forever.

I would suppose many astrologers have looked at the sunrise charts for 11th September 2001 and 8th October 2001. They are included here (Figures 1 and 2) as the base points, from which we may look back to see what history has to teach.

The following charts take us to Jerusalem when the first Christian crusaders descended from late 11th century Europe; to the Albigensian crusade, which covered southern France in fire and blood; to a sacking of Baghdad during the 13th century; and in the 14th, to Nicopolis where the history of Europe turned at the brutal hands of Sultan Bajazet. To complete this study there is a surprise, something for which I had not planned, a serendipity which I hope delights the reader as much as it did me. There has been no cheating; I have not ransacked a timetable of history to find charts consistent with the theory. The process was simple: I thought about events of medieval history with which I was familiar, events with similarities to 911 and 8th October 2001; choosing one from each century, in varied locations which included Jerusalem and Baghdad because of current relevance. The results are amazing.

Spread out in time over the eighth to the fourteenth century, I found in these charts such clarity, so much simplicity and grace in the way these events are in mimesis of the cycles of heaven: the dance of death, the acts of aggression and retribution taken, the politics of violence both overt and covert, and most of all in the days drenched with blood.

Song of Roland is the oldest extant epic poem, or *chanson de geste*. It was composed or copied by a scribe called Turoldus—his original manuscript is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford; a modern English translation of the Roland is still in print. By curious coincidence the most frequently accepted date for creation of Turoldus' work is between 1098 and 1100, the time of the First Crusade.

CONTEMPORARY descriptions of the taking of Jerusalem from 'the Infidels' by the first Christian crusaders are not pretty. They describe the mailed crusaders as up to their ankles (the more exuberant say knees) in blood—try to imagine ankle-deep blood in the street where you live—in their battle-frenzy committing atrocities: the disemboweling of babies and pregnant women; in their religious fervour certain that God was not only on their side but also approved such mass brutality toward non-believers. There was exhilaration when the battle was won; the crusaders went down on bloodied knees to give thanks to God. Their priests (who like as not had wielded a mace, the accepted weapon for a clergy prohibited the use of sword) celebrated masses to re-consecrate the Holy City to the Christian God. Thousands had died. And the map for Sunrise this day at Jerusalem is in synchrony with the event.

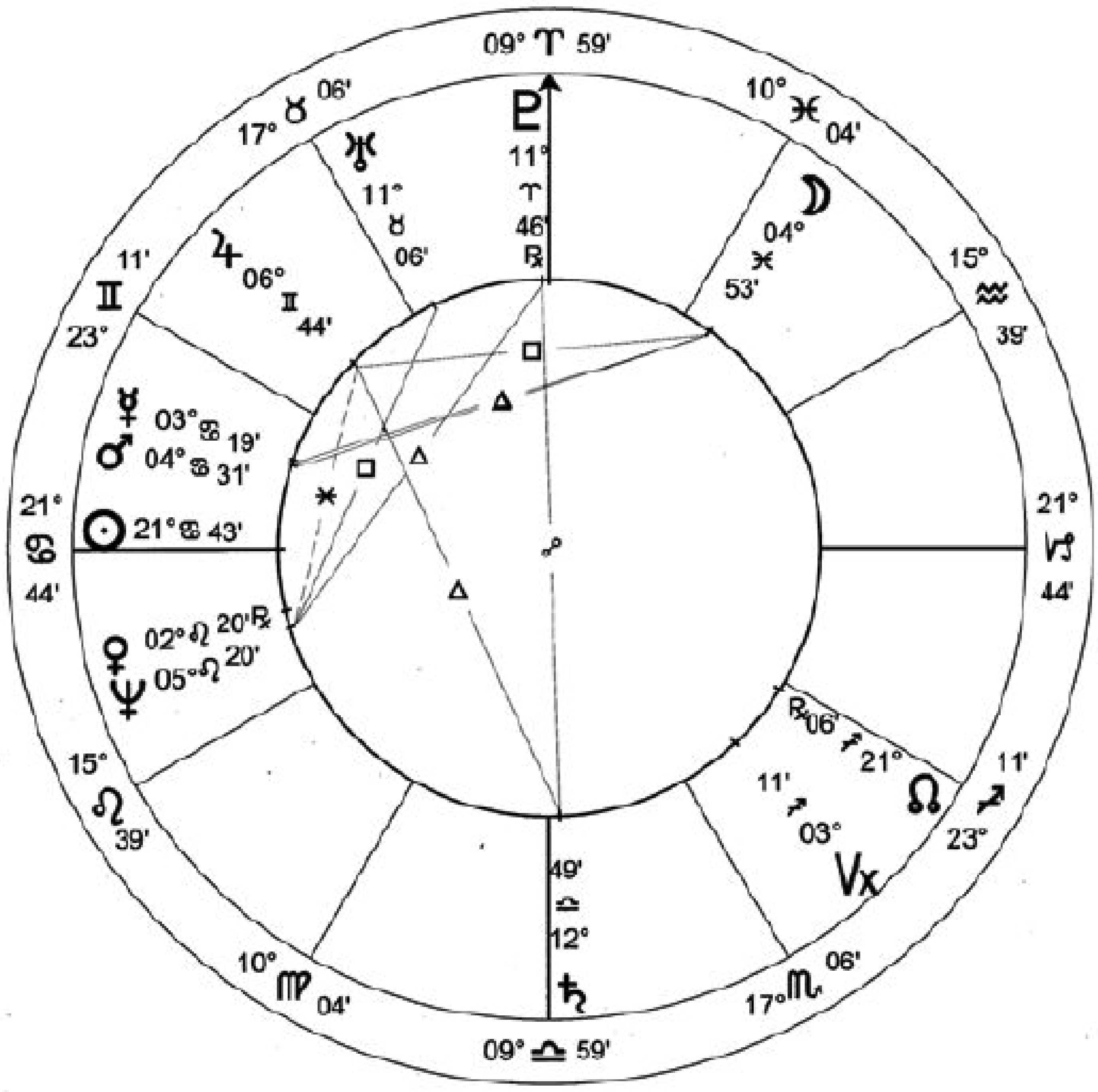


Figure 3:

Battle for Jerusalem

Sunrise,
9th July 1099
old style
(15th July
new style);
Jerusalem:
31N47, 35E13

9th July 1099[3]: The ☉ rose framed by ☿ ☌ ♂ on one side and ♀ ☌ ♆ on the other; the ♓ ☽ □ to ♃, both aspecting the ☉ at 21º43’ ♋. This pattern of planetary integration is characteristic of an eventful day. It is with some irony I note that ♆, the planet for matters spiritual aspects the midpoint ♂/♃, a pairing significant for the fulfilment of ambition. But the simple, inescapable sign of the dreadful cost for the successful siege is that on this day the ☉ rose with 9º 59’♈ at the Midheaven, ☌ ♇ (11º 46’ ♈) and ☍ ♄ (12º 49’ ♎). And only the ☽ lies between them.

THE ALBIGENSIANS, or Cathars may need a brief definition, their place in the European Middle Ages not being so well-known as the Crusades although they are connected with one of the Grail myths.

The Cathars were followers of a 3rd century mystic called Mani, whose teachings spread from Mesopotamia to Bulgaria and from there to northern France in the early 11th century. By the early 13th century there were thriving communities in northern Italy, and most of all in southern France where they came under the protection of Raymond, the powerful Count of Toulouse.

‘Heresy’ derives from a Greek word meaning choice: in the context of Catholicism it came to mean putting one’s own religious choice or view against that of the Church. The Cathar heresy challenged the Church’s right to restrict interpretation of the Gospels to its own priests. This was their undoing. Despite their widespread appeal—knights, women, merchants were drawn to the gentle, pacifist teachers who preached that Jesus offered salvation, not by the Passion (crucifixion) but through his teachings as found in the Gospels—the Cathars were seen as a grave threat to the power of the Church. So when his papal legate was assassinated Pope Innocent III declared a crusade in the Toulouse region.

Innocent, canon lawyer and theologian, was also politically adept. Recognising that the land-hungry barons of northern France cast covetous eyes on the rich Provencal lands of Count Raymond, he put together a coalition headed by Simon de Montfort with Arold Aimery, Abbot of Citeaux, who took an army of some 25,000 men south in the summer of 1209.

On the morning of the July 15th the crusaders prepared to besiege the city of Beziers. A knight came up Aimery, asking how they would know the heretics within the city. Aimery replied “Slay them all. God will recognise his own”.[4]

The sunrise chart that day is overseen by ♆ ☌ the MC, □ ♄, making a grand trine with the ☽ and ♇: a strikingly apposite configuration for religious fervour carried to the extremes of brutal destruction. But what marks this day as especially bleak for human affairs is ♄ and ♇ framing the ☉, which has risen close to their exact midpoint.[5]

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[3] Historians use the current Gregorian calendar. The Julian date, contemporary for the event, is as calculated by *SolarFire*.

[4] I have read that Aimery’s dreadful pronouncement has found its way down through nearly 8 centuries and onto t-shirts worn by mercenaries in Africa.

The carnage was horrific: over 9,000 people were massacred that day; including some 3,000 who took refuge in the church of Mary Magdalene, and were burned to death.

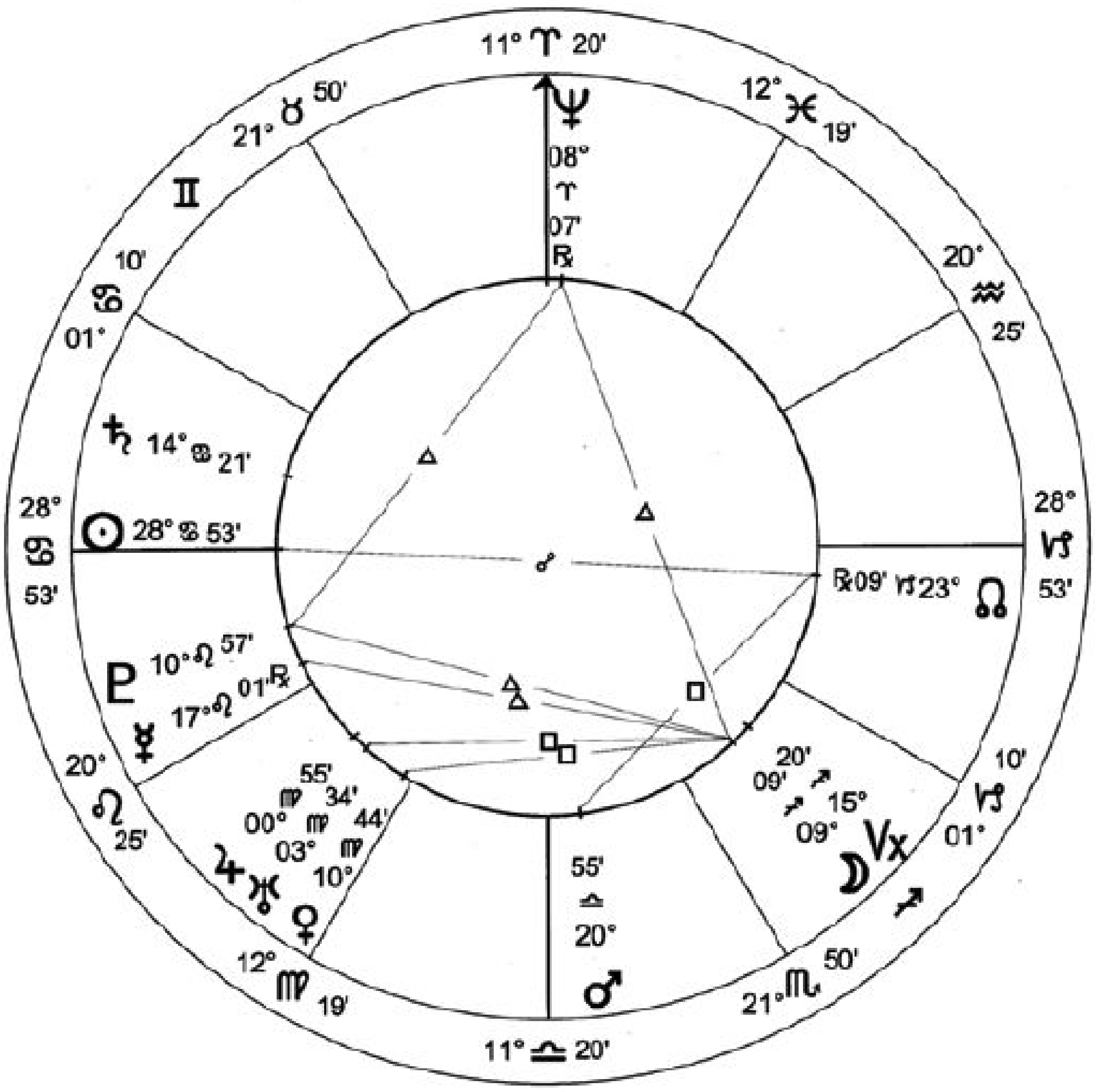

Figure 4:

Massacre at Beziers

Sunrise,
15th July 1209,
old style
(22nd July new style)
Beziers,
France:
43N21, 3E15

William of Tudela, troubadour poet, wrote poignantly in memory of the young viscount of Beziers:

> *...he had love for all*
> *and those of his lands, over whom he*
> *was lord*
> *did not dread or fear him*
> *but played with him as their*
> *companion*

Reports from Beziers spread quickly: five major cities, including Carcassonne submitted to the crusaders without a fight. Some historians say this war between north and south destroyed the brilliant Provencal civilization. Its end in political terms was in 1229, with the Treaty of Paris; but perhaps its spiritual ending was in 1244, when on 16th March the last Cathar stronghold fell to its besiegers. More than 200 of the emerging Cathars were penned up on a lower hillside of the mountain and summarily burned.

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[5] If the reader should care to look at the chart for 1 November 1964 in Delhi where, the day after Indira Gandhi was assassinated there were 'the worst sectarian riots since Partition'—*Considerations* vol. XIII, no.3, p.21. It is a chart I recalled when first looking at Beziers: the sunrise in Delhi, closely framed by ♇ and ♄, all in ♏, is so like that for 1209.

The legend of Montsegur was born on this day: the story of the miraculous escape by two Cathars off the bare mountain surrounded by troops of the Royal Seneschal of Carcassonne, that they carried with them the most priceless Cathar relic, the Holy Grail.

BAGHDAD: This ancient city has been much in the news since the Gulf War of the early 1990's, more so since 911. It was in the news during the 13th century as well. And then as now, there were divisions between Sunni and Shi'ite Moslems. The difference between then and now is with the five preceding centuries of a great civilization: "this melting pot where the heritage of Antiquity, of Iran, of Hinduism and Hellenism had met to enlarge the human spirit". [6]

By the middle of the 13th century this civilization was past its most dynamic prime and the arts of this time contain little that reflects new ideas. But its sophistication and harmony are reflected in the works of "the most illustrious of court and city poets", Sadi of Shiraz, who devoted his most beautiful works to the description of roses. He wrote of a friend arriving at a social gathering, saying:

> *I intended to fill my lap as soon as I could reach the rose trees, and bring presents for my companions. When I arrived there the fragrance of the roses so intoxicated me that the skirt of my robe slipped from my hands.*

What happened to Baghdad was the Mongol catastrophe. Even today the very name of the great khan Genghis is evocative of the terror and destruction which spread out from the plains of central Asia first east toward China, then west into Europe—in the early part of the 13th century spreading as far as Poland and Hungary. Mongol society was based on pillage, destruction, military occupation: they calculatedly spread terror by savage retribution to any who dared resist. A nomadic life-style meant their only loyalty was to clan; their only respect was for those stronger than themselves. They were disinterested in religion, and Hülegü, grandson of the great khan, was hostile to Islam. When the armies of Hülegü swept west across the Abbasid Caliphate in the Tigris-Euphrates valley during his third campaign—aimed toward Iraq and

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[6] All the quotes in this section, excepting that from *The Rose Garden of Sadi of Shiraz*, are from The Cambridge Illustrated History of the Middle Ages, 950-1250.

Syria, spreading the characteristic Mongol atmosphere of calculated apocalypse, any resistance was futile. This campaign began in 1256, and on 5th February 1258 the city of Baghdad was sacked by the Mongol horde of Hülegü's cavalry. The caliph was rounded up, stuffed in a sack, and trampled by horses. So ended a dynasty.

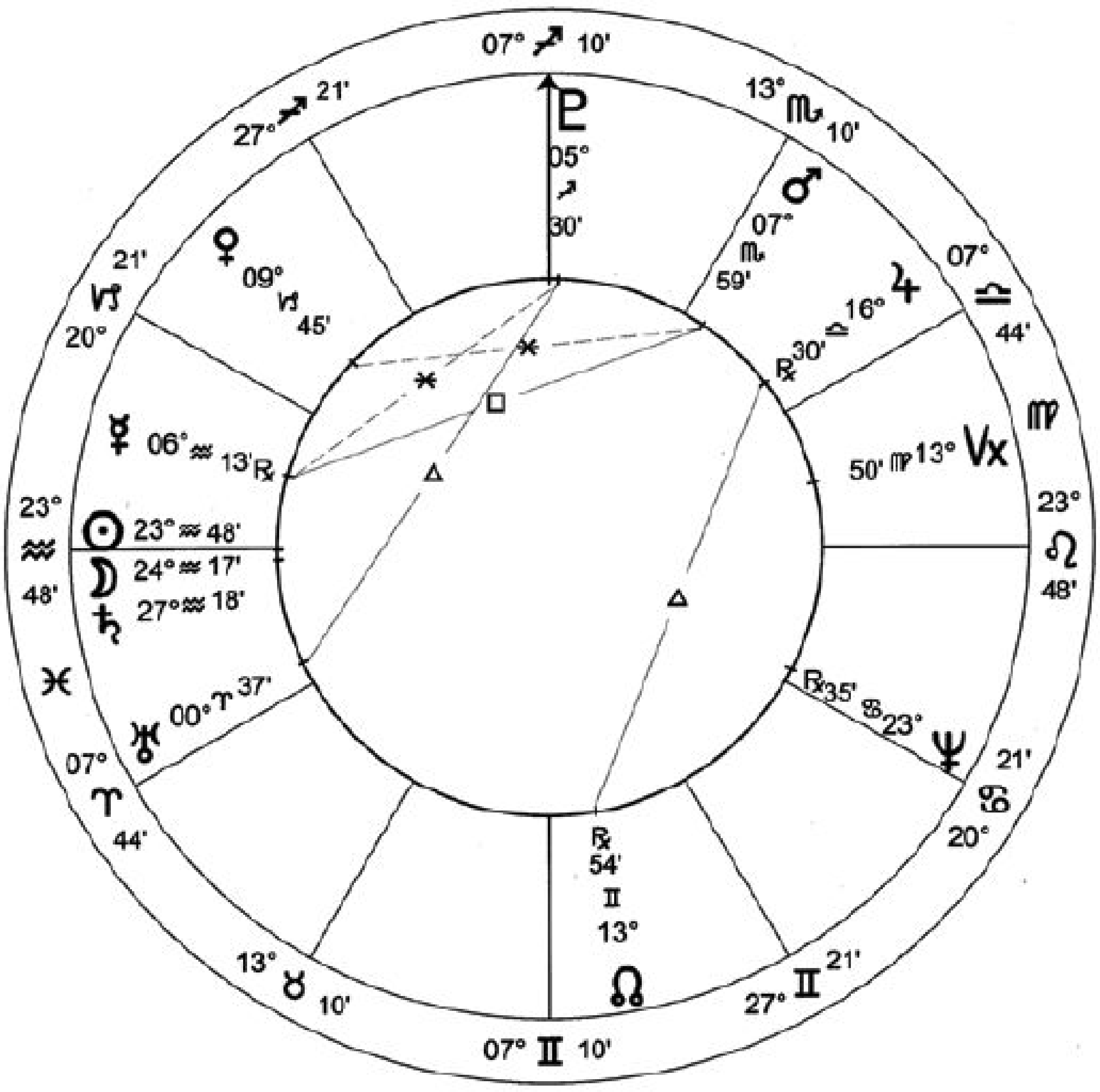

Figure 5:

Destruction of Baghdad by Mongols

Sunrise, 5th February 1258, old style (12th Feb new style); Baghdad: 33N21, 44E25

As you can see, the sunrise at Baghdad on this day was accompanied by a New Moon, closely followed by ♄. The distance ♄ is from the Ascendant is similar to that of ♇ from the MC. The symmetry of ♄-As and ♇-Mc is at its closest on the day of the new ☽. I do not know if Hülegü travelled with an astrologer, but it seems he travelled in harmony with the heavens. You will also see that ☿ is □ ♂, and ♂ is approaching the position of the 1248 ♄ ☌ ♇ at 9º–10º ♏. By the ♀ in a 'soft' sextile to ♂, semisquare the ☽ ☌ ☉, we may hope that some at least of Baghdad's women managed to evade the usual rape, murder or slavery which was the fate of Mongol victims.

Hülegü moved on, did a deal with the Crusaders in Syria, who in 1260 rode in triumph with him and his army into Damascus. Sadi of Shiraz, poet of the roses died, at nearly 100 years of age in 1290. The Abbassid dynasty was irreplaceable. The Muslim cultures of Syria, Mesopotamia, Persia would have to wait until the 20th century for new dynasties founded on the black gold that is oil. And in Iraq it would seem, a new despot in the self-aggrandizing form of one Saddam Hussein.

IT IS SOMETIMES written that the European Middle Ages ended with the battle of Nicopolis in 1396, though others put later dates up to the end of the 15th century. It was a battle of revenge, and as we shall see, it has some startling similarities to the chart for 'The War on Terror' in 2001.

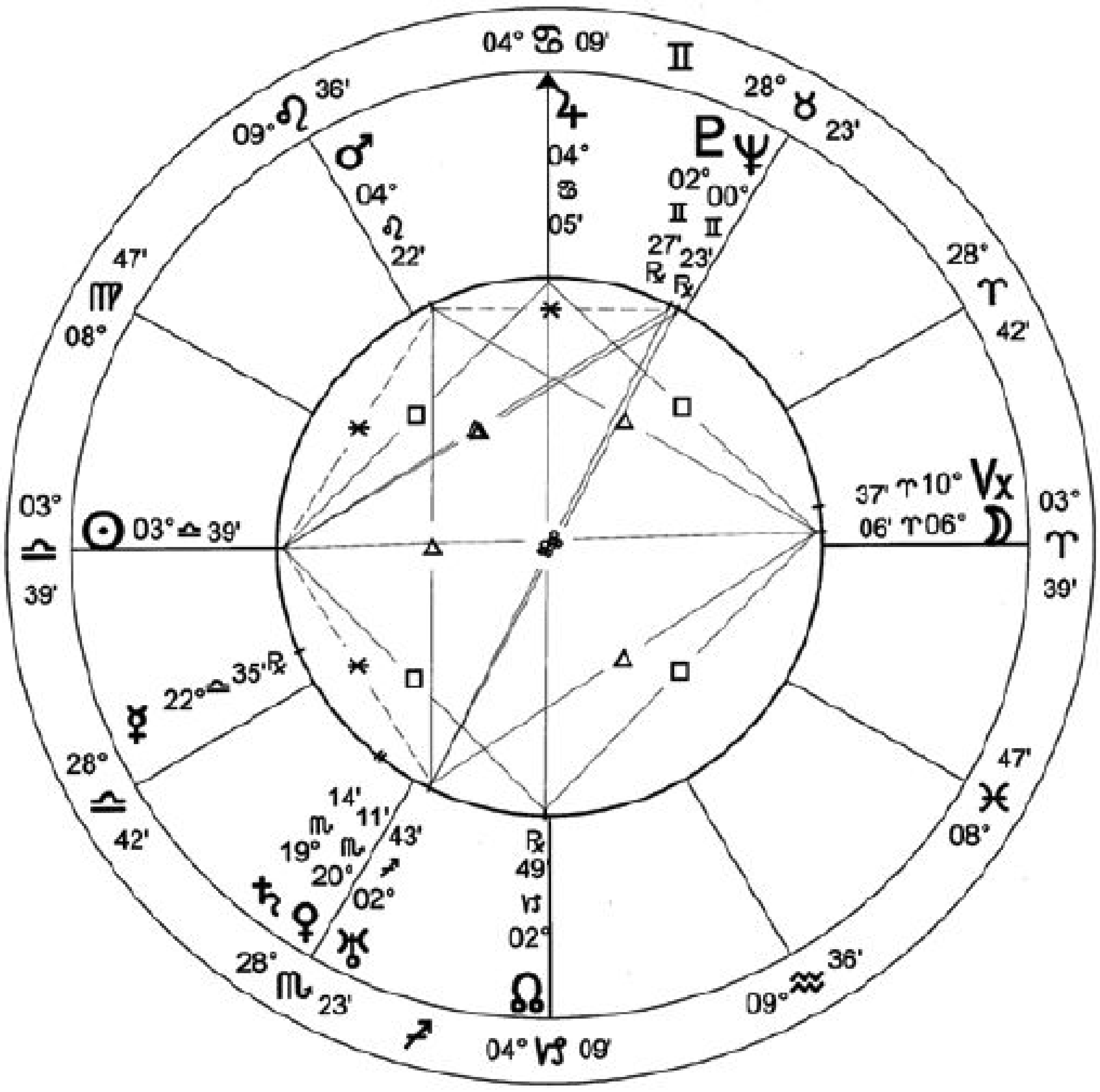

Figure 6:

Bajazet's Revenge

Sunrise, 18th September 1396, old style (26th September new style): Nicopolis, Bulgaria: 39N00, 20E45

During the 14th century France was supreme among European countries, its king being accorded the title of Most Christian. The Valois Charles VI was on the French throne during the 1390's. As he was given to fits of the Valois curse, madness, effective power resided in four royal uncles, most in the Duke of Burgundy. Though there had been from the East calls for help against the rising tide of Ottoman Turks, it wasn't until 1391 that Burgundy, looking for a crusade to add to his prestige, sent one of his knights off on a fact-finding mission.

What the knight found was alarming: Sultan Murad had reached Kossovo in 1389 where he defeated a Serbian league, but was killed in battle. He was succeeded by son, Bajazet, who immediately took the traditional first act of Ottoman sultans—eliminating any possible rivalry by strangling his brother with a bowstring. In 1393 Bajazet took Nicopolis, strongest and most strategically important of fortresses on the lower Danube; this as part of a campaign through Bulgaria, Bosnia, Serbia, Macedonia and Attica (any of these names sound familiar?), reaching the borders of Hungary.

During August 1395 in response to Burgundy's summons, an embassy from Hungary arrived in Paris for an audience with the king. They implored help for their King Sigismund "in the name of kinship and for the love of God". Charles responded by saying as the principle Christian prince it devolved upon him to punish the infidel Turk. A crusading army, headed by Burgundy's eldest son, 24-year-old Jean, Duke of Nevers departed from Dijon on 23rd April 1396.

This army, of some 2,000 knights, supported by about 6,000 archers and infantry crossed Bavaria to the upper Danube, then took river transport to their rendezvous with Sigismund at Buda(pest), which they reached in late July. But despite making it known that he will over-run Hungary before proceeding to Rome where he will feed his horse oats upon the altar of Saint Peter, Sultan Bajazet os nowhere to be seen. Sigismund wants to stay in Hungary and fight on his own terms. However, the crusading knights will have none of this, wanting to give chase. So down the Danube they go, partying most of the way, horrifying their attendant priests by licentious, extravagant display.

Reaching Rachowa: despite surrender by the Bulgarian vassal in charge of town and Turkish garrison, the French put the town to pillage and massacre and after setting it afire take 1,000 hostages, both Turkish and Bulgarian with them down river to Nicopolis. This they reach on 5th September; and sit around the blockaded city for two weeks making increasingly derisive noise about the Great Turk—great in cowardice perhaps—and party on regardless.

But Bajazet is on his way at great speed. He sends an advance party which is engaged and bashed about severely by a small contingent of French, who return to Nicopolis with word that the Great Turk is indeed on his way. When crusader scouts return with word that Bajazet is a scant six hours march away, there is finally some alarm among the carousing French. Leaving their dinner party in haste and disarray, some with disbelief, some in panic, there is general arming and an atrocity: the 'schismatics (Greek Orthodox) and infidels' from Rachowa are massacred.

At dawn on the 17th September, despite pleas from Sigismund and the German knights, the French cavalry charge up hill to destroy what they think is a remnant of the Turkish forces. What they come face to face with is the Sultan at the head of his main cavalry, surrounded by his elite personal ghazis—a ghazi is "a sword of God who purifies the earth from the filth of non-believers" (sound a bit familiar?).

To their credit, though hopelessly outmaneuvered the French knights fight valiantly. They know they've stuffed up big-time; they know the battle is lost; but with great courage and all the energy of despair they foght on to the dismal end.

After the defeat Sultan Bajazet tours the battlefield. At the sight of so many of his own troops dead, and the atrocious fate of his vassals from Rachowa, he is enraged. He separates two dozen prisoners who will fetch good ransoms from the noble families of Europe, and those young and fit enough to serve as slaves—he is one pragmatic despot.

On the morning of 18th September Sultan Bajazet has his noble hostages stand by while several thousand prisoners, tied together in groups of 3 or 4, are led out to face his executioners. At his signal they set to work, scimitars decapitating every helpless man and boy. This dreadful work goes on from morning until late afternoon, when even the Sultan has seen enough blood for his vengeance to be satisfied.

If you look now at the Sunrise chart for Bajazet’s revenge compared to the chart for Sunrise of The War on Terror, it is almost creepy in similarity. ☉ is square ♃ in both charts; ☿ in the first house, following ☉ in both charts; ☽ is ⚹ ♇, □ to the ♀ ☌ ♄ at Nicopolis, and at Kabul is ☍ ♇, ☌ ♄. Nicopolis has ☉/☽ = ♄, MC, a grand trine in fire: ☽-♂-♇. Kabul ☉/☽ = 16º39’ ♌.

Though this cannot be said to be a natal chart for the crusade—that would more likely be at Clermont in 1395, when the crusade was first preached, as a departure date it’s not very auspicious. One wonders about the great lords, Nevers, Coucy, Boucicaut, d’Eu, who would all have traveled with a large retinue including an astrologer. Did any of them say “Heh boss, it’s not exactly a great day for traveling”? Or, did they see it as a good day: ♂ in his own sign, ♀ also in hers….. and so on? Or maybe it just wasn’t politic to say, “Wait a few weeks or so, ‘til the ☉ gets to conjunct ♃, and ☿ is in his own sign”?

The long term consequences of Nicopolis are with us still: most recently Serbia and Croatia; Muslims and Christians—both Greek Orthodox and Latin, at each others’ throats with virulent antagonism, spreading darkness and destruction both physical and spiritual.

But in the slightly different term there is a small and perfect astrological gem, an unwitting postscript put together by two journalists, one of the 14th and one of the 20th century.

Jean Froissart (1337-1410): inveterate traveler, endlessly curious about people and things around him; recorder of chivalrous deeds and fantastical events.

Barbara Tuchman (1912-1987): scholar, journalist, historian, from whose epic study of the 14th century, *A Distant Mirror*, comes much of the description of Nicopolis. Also an inveterate traveler, though to historic sites and great libraries around the world, endlessly curious about both people and events, fascinated especially by the histories of war, from Troy to Vietnam.

Describing in his journal the terrible events of Nicopolis, Froissart wrote: *Since the Battle of Roncesvalles when [all] twelve peers of France were slain, Christendom received not so great a damage.*

And Tuchman, after quoting him, wrote: *Though Froissart could not have known it, his epitaph for the crusade was historically just.*

AND I AM DELIGHTED to present to you, gentle reader, the sunrise chart for 11th August 778 at Roncesvalles: with ♃ ☌ the MC, ♄ ☌ IC, ♂ is □ ♇, and aspects both ♄ and MC; and as with Nicopolis, ☉/☽ = ♄, MC.

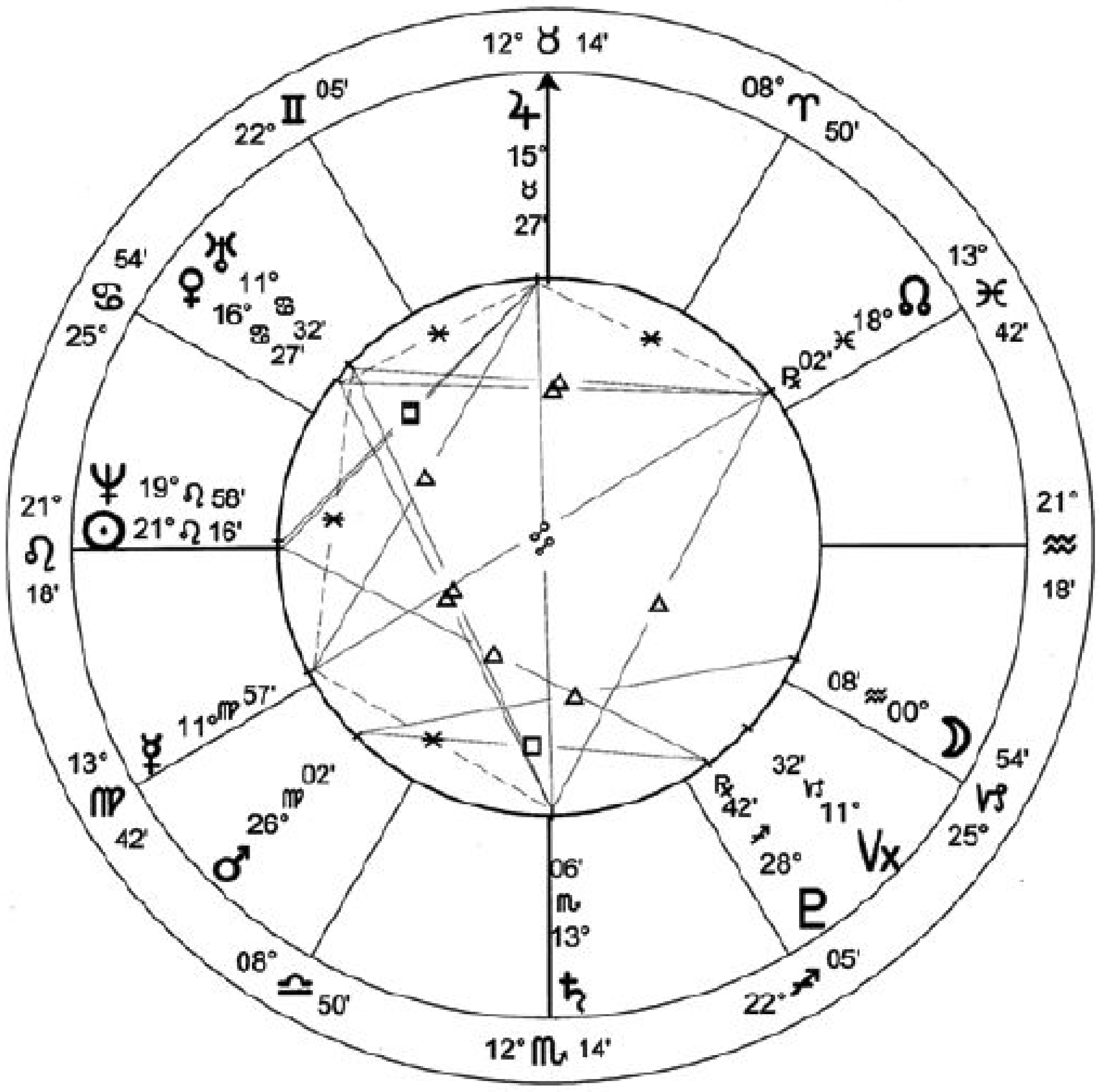

Figure 7:

Battle of Roncesvalles

Sunrise,
11th August 778
old style
(15th August
new style);
Roncesvalles,
Spain:
43N01, 1W19

Yesterday the emperor was going through a pass,
Intending to return to the fair land of France.
He had arranged a rearguard with great renown;
Count Roland, his nephew, was left behind in it,
And Oliver and all the twelve peers,
And twenty thousand armed men from France.

Yesterday a battle was fought at Roncesvals;
Roland died and Count Oliver as well,
And the twelve peers of France whom Charles loved so dearly.
Twenty thousand of their Franks died.

Although the division of history into such segments as Medieval or Renaissance is artificial—even the word ‘medieval’ is an invention of the mid-19th century—although the chart for a 1527 sack of Rome shows connection to our base charts from 2001, I have chosen to end here because to me the 14th century in Europe was a last time our vocation, Astrology, was still integrated with Astronomy (science), and with a God who was understood to be everywhere and in everything.

Should readers have interest to know of it; this study can be continued. It might be interesting to find out if there was more going on in Cambodia, where the great temple at Ankor was being built at the same time as the cathedral of Notre Dame. Do maps from historic events in China and the Americas show the same correlations with 2001?

And with a little help from Dr. Landscheidt's cycle of battles, take a look into the future—find out why I don't think we'll be doing World War III this year?

> *Nobody understands how change happens,*
> *so how can you guess.* —Noam Chomsky

> *But as for the order of chivalry, it can truly be said*
> *and demonstrated that it is the most dangerous*
> *for both soul and body, and the one in which it is*
> *necessary to maintain a clearer conscience than in*
> *any other order in the world.* —Geoffrey de Charny

> *On the whole, I much prefer Excalibur to Fat Boy*
> —Rosalind

Further references:

John Boswell, *The Kindness of Strangers.*
"Women, Poets, and Politics in Occitania" by Frederic L. Cheyette. In *Aristocratic Women in Medieval France*, ed. Theodore Evergates.
Noam Chomsky, *Understanding Power.*
Richard W. Kaeuper & Elspeth Kennedy, *The Book of Chivalry of Geoffroi de Charny.*
Maurice Keen, *Chivalry*.
Steven Runciman, *The Crusades*.

Who ?

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The Astrology of the Aquarian Age

BARBARA KOVAL D. F. *Astrol. S.*

ELEMENTS

As we saw in the Piscean Age, the ♍ arm of the ♓ dynamic gradually took over the Piscean dominance. ♍ was represented by the extreme materialism and analytic approach of modern science[1], which began to gain strength in the Renaissance with Da Vinci and Galileo and burst into full bloom with Isaac Newton in the 18th century, the Age of Reason. The only carryover from ♓ is the extreme abstraction and immaterialism of mathematics. In the religious sector ♓ represents where we are just before coming into life, or the world beyond our senses. Even Science is exploring what cannot be seen with the naked eye, atoms and sub-particles, for instance. Since no one has actually traveled to distant stars, we have to agree that speculations on time and distance have to be speculative. Yet, we are all expected to have "faith" in science and scientists. Every age has its not-to-be-questioned authorities. In the Renaissance time period that authority was the Catholic Church, which burned heretics at the stake and carried on an Inquisition from about 1240 AD to 1740. Because ♓ refers to spiritualism, the notation for this era was noted by the birth of Christ. AD meant *Anno Domini,* in the year of the Lord. Already we are seeing a new notation, CE. Many other hints of the new age are also in evidence, from the destruction of that monument to materiality, the New York World Trade Center, to terrorism as the major form of combat for those who cannot destroy people and territory simply with bombs and missiles.

AQUARIUS

As an Air Sign, ♒ represents human beings, particularly as it relates to human intellect. ♒ represents people in groups. We will be defined as our group identity. We are also looking forward to a long period where human life will be all important. You can see a hint of this in the ecology movement, which is not just about saving the planet and saving species, a remnant of materialism, but about keeping it livable for human beings. The ♌ arm represents God and the need to regain power among individuals.

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[1] Koval, Barbara, *The Lively Circle*, *Astrology and Science in Our Modern Age,* ACS, San Diego, 1981. How astrology and science differ and why classical science can neither prove nor disprove astrology.

LEO

♌ is also the spirit within all of us, our souls. Because a group identity undercuts individuality, we will all strive to counter our anonymity by creating a special identity with God, especially apart from organized religion. There is a growing interest in alternative spiritual practices from "speaking in tongues" to eastern forms of spirituality, like Hinduism and Taoism. The terrorism of Islam also is playing a role in denying the validity of religious organizations.

ORGANIZED RELIGION

We can see the signals of the downfall of organized religion in the recent pedophile scandals in the Roman Catholic Church and the seeming lack of concern by an aging Pope. The terrorism perpetrated by adherents of Islam is also playing a big part in building a distrust of any kind of religious authority. The acts of Islam are particularly noteworthy, because this religion recognizes the "prophets" of most religions from Abraham to Jesus to the Buddha. So the power of God will revert back to the people, not to the keepers of the worldly spiritual flame. While this seems to contradict the group identity theme, aligning with God on a personal level is one of the best ways to hold on to individuality and self-esteem.

Many of the movements we saw in the sixties, especially the tendencies towards spiritually oriented religions of the Far East and the human potential movement, which moved people away from following orders into finding their own inner paths. The rebellion against authority of all kinds was just a warming up for the Aquarian rebellious tendencies. So the chief principles of ♒ will be the sanctity of human life and democracy. The thrust of ♌ will be spirituality and faith.

THE GREAT AGES

As we have seen, the ♍ arm appears to have taken over in the Piscean age, so we should see growing strength in the ♌ dynamic in the years ahead. The best way to understand the future is to see how the symbols worked in the past. The Age of ♌, the golden age of ancient history, occurred 8,000 to 10,000 BC. Most likely it is reflected in the history/myth recorded in the Iliad and the Odyssey when the gods intervened in the lives of heroes. It was about kings and nobles fighting each other for supremacy and power. It was also about satisfying one's desire for a beautiful woman, Helen of Troy. So we have the involvement of higher beings in man's quest for power and pleasure. Territorial boundaries were not yet fully established. It was also a time of exploration as recounted in the *Aenead*. Such was the pull of the ♒ arm. Jason went in search of the Golden Fleece. He was looking for gold by traveling to find it. We can see in our times how flying throughout the world and international trading are beginning to dominate not only our markets, but our dreams.

COMMUNICATION

Fables and myths are similar to symbols, the language of astrology. So we will be getting back to symbolic thinking rather than linear logic. Egyptians in the Age of ♉, also a fixed sign, wrote in hieroglyphics. Fixed Signs represent compression and density. Their information takes up far less space than what we find in our libraries. If you think of it, astrology in its brief circle of symbols pretty much tells you all you need to know about life and living.

To sum up, the chief elements of the next two thousand years will be symbolic thinking, internationalism, power struggles, and travel. Astrology should come back into its own as its sign is ♒.

REPLICATIONS across scale

Cutting edge science, Chaos theory[2], posits "Replication across scale" as one of its major theses. Just think how close that is to "As above, so below." As befits its development out of materialist science, Chaos is talking about space. As befits astrology, which is really the science of time, we can posit replication across the scale of time.

In astrology, the science of time, periods do not begin and end with precision. They fall into place, like tumblers in a combination lock, as lesser configurations form the same pattern. The dominant indicators of worldly trends and activities are:

1. Great Age: 2,000 years.
2. Great Mutation: approximately 200 years.
3. Lesser Mutation: 20 years,
4. ♂ ☌ ♄: 2 years.

Note the time differences in multiples of ten. All are going to be in place much sooner than the estimated space placement of the vernal equinox in the constellation, ♒. The Great Mutation will occur in January of 2021. The ♂ ☌ ♄ in ♒ will occur in April of 2022. So by April of 2022 the Aquarian Age should be in full flower. One of the best ways to explore the potential for the next 2,000 years is by going back to the relatively recent evidence of past Great Mutations. While one might argue that they are not the same thing, Chaos Theory's principle, "replication across scale," reinforces the propriety.

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[2] Gleick, James, *Chaos, Making a New Science,* Penguin Books, New York, 1987. *Chaos* gives any reader a greater understanding of Chaos Theory, its scientific implications and ramifications. Astrologers who shy away from the technical and scientific aspects of our art need not be daunted. This is one of the most readable and enjoyable books on science ever written. If you like Carl Sagan's works, you will love Gleick. He makes chaos accessible to the non-scientific mind.

GREAT AGES[3]

The Great Mutations are far closer in recorded history to pull out events and trends that are likely to be in place in more modern times. The most recent Aquarian Mutation, the first meaningful contact of ♃ and ♄ in ♒, started a period that lasted from 1226-1365. Even though it developed in a materialist-abstraction Age, it still exhibited Aquarian qualities. During that period communal living predominated. The feudal system in actuality grouped people within the realm of a particular lord and his landed domain. It was a more sophisticated form of tribal organization, which may have sprung up in the first Aquarian Age as primitive man sought safety and security in the wilds.

THE TUMBLERS

The first ♃ ☌ ♄ in ♒ will occur in January of 2021. It will also automatically be the first Great and Lesser Mutation. The nearest ♂ ☌ ♄ in ♒ will occur in April of 2022. Click! The lock is open. While this is a bit short of the 72 year orb of one degree in the constellations for a semi-start, it still is within the orb of the major preview of Aquarian ideals and impulses evident in the 1960s and reinforces the potential SVP for 1900 in the area of 1 degree and 41.6+ minutes for the space distance.

AQUARIAN MUTATION

As stated earlier the feudal system was in effect during this period in most of Europe. While the grouping was defined by the landed noble's territory and entourage as befitted the Earth arm of the Piscean Great Age, it still was a kind of group living. The nobility aspect reflected the ♒/♌ dynamic that does seem to pop up in most areas of experience. For instance, most rebels against authority usually become quasi-nobles and dictators when they get the power themselves. We see many instances in modern times: Castro, Stalin, Hitler, Noriega, and others, particularly in Eastern Europe and South and Central America. Perhaps, the most stunning example is China, whose rebel leaders championed communism and immediately transformed the new government into an often brutal dictatorship.

The other main element of the earlier mutation was communal living in convents and monasteries. Many sons of nobles, who could not inherit because of older brothers in a system of primogeniture turned either to the military or to the priesthood. Daughters for whom no husbands could be found became nuns. So we can safely say, not only by interpreting ♒, but by looking at history that communism is likely to be the primary social and political organization of mankind. This is not to say that Soviet and Chinese models of communism will prevail, but rather a more democratic model. How easy it will be to transform apartment buildings and hotels into group homes. We already see an inkling of that in condominiums, where all matters are put to a vote by the owners. Equally easy will it be to transform corporations into working communes. Because ♒ has no territorial definitions the nation-state, as we know it, is likely to disappear along with centralized governments. In the Aquarian Mutation the Catholic Church became a universal authority without territorial boundaries and a world government. These were also the years of the Inquisition[4]. Though each grouping will be a law unto itself, courts and the United Nations will become the arbiters of disputes. World government is almost guaranteed as territorial boundaries disappear, and Earth becomes just another continent in the vast reaches of inhabited outer space. The Aquarian Mutation also saw great travels and discoveries of unknown parts of the earth. Leif Erickson landed in the New World. Marco Polo traveled to China. We will discover new life on distant planets and star systems.

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[3] Many in our field claim the Aquarian Age will not start for another two or three hundred years. Here we address the symbolic background as opposed to the merely technical and mathematical.

GOD

The ♌ arm of ♒ represents God and spirituality. As the Crusades tried to bring God to the infidel, so does Islam sacrifice its members to battle the forces of the evil Satan. You might call this the Crusades in reverse. Because of the anonymity of the group dynamic people will be seeking a more personal experience of God, rather than the rites and rituals of organized religion. Many out-of-the-way churches encourage old revivalist techniques of speaking in tongues and the recounting of personal conversion experiences. We also saw in the Sixties a growing interest in spiritualism and eastern religious experiences, reaching for nirvana. In the middle-ages nuns and monks often flagellated themselves and wore haircloth to try to subordinate the body to the soul. Yoga is a more modern and benign way to achieve the same effect, as is *Tai Ch'i*. Even in some of the more strict churches of the west, the spiritual element is creeping in. The great popularity of the televangelists also marked the growing interest in God.

THE CHARTS

Charts drawn in sidereal coordinates have the Mutation in ♑ so they are not appropriate. Because the contact of the vernal equinox in the constellation of ♒ already takes into account the sidereal connection, the tropical incorporates both systems, our local placement as well as the universal placement. The charts are drawn up for Greenwich, England. L. Edward Johndro posited a place on earth that aligned with the constellations. While this may not be the exact location he would have used, it does seem appropriate to use what the world uses as a universal time marker. In ancient Egypt that point would have been the Great Pyramid at Gizeh.

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[4] Koval, Barbara. *Time and Money, The Astrology of Wealth*, Llewellyn Publications, St, Paul, MN, 1993. Air Mutation pp. 120-122.

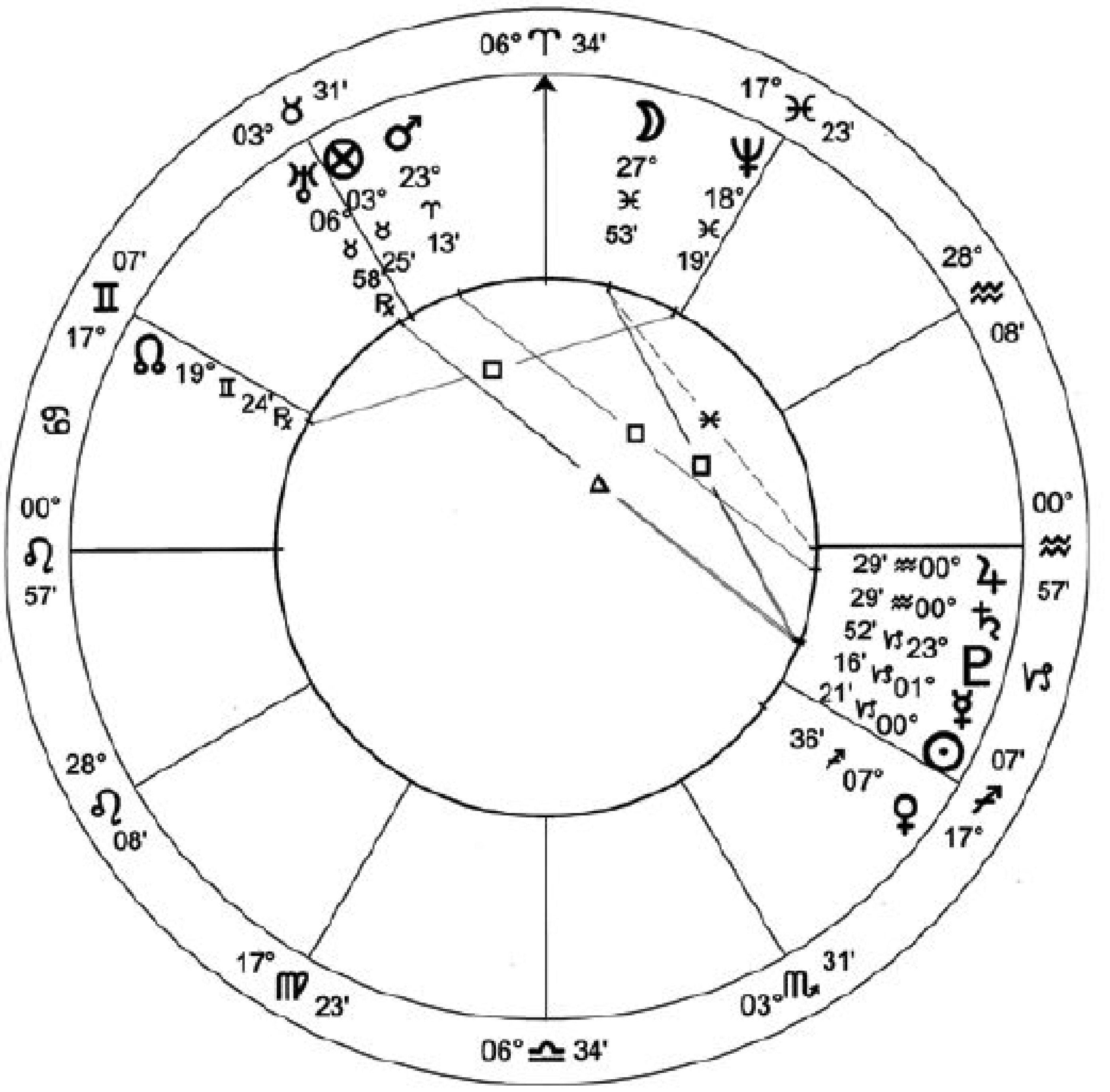

Figure 1: **Air Mutation**

6:21 UT, 21st December 2020

Greenwich, England: 41N30 0W00

Note the 0° of the conjunction. Because the conjunction is at 0° ♒ this may be the chart of the Aquarian Age as well. It is easy to adjust this chart for any capital in the world if you simply enter the coordinates in your computer and leave the time at Greenwich. Great Mutation Charts define the social, political, and cultural trends of society.

The Great Mutation chart has ♌ rising, which indicates the impetus towards God and spirituality of the ♌ arm of ♒, just as the Piscean Age eventually was dominated by its ♍ arm. Sidereal charts should be one sign off, since it is presumed that at the start of the New Age the *ayanamsa* should be 30°. Thus, the sidereal chart has ♋ rising. The ☽ rules memory, past history, and one's family and heritage. Although by calculation both tropical and sidereal charts have ☽ in ♓, by the same reasoning as above the sidereal chart should have ☽ in ♒, which would befit the start of the Era. ☽ in tropical ♓ suggests mankind will remember the beliefs of the previous age. Since, until very recently, this age was the Christian era, the teachings of Jesus Christ, God incarnate, are likely to continue dominant in the new age, even though the main God form is likely to be the Holy

Ghost. In the New Testament Bible the Holy Ghost came to Christ's apostles to inspire them to spread His word. We can see that the message of love for God and for one's fellow man is perfectly compatible with the humanistic values of the Aquarian Age.

The sidereal chart (not shown) is actually of little use because the Mutation occurs in ♑.[5] We know that the mutation charts in the tropical system work well in forecasting stock market moves, for instance. Nevertheless, the other positions do tell an appropriate story. The tropical chart has ☉ in ♑, a carryover of the values of the materialism of the scientific ethos of the Age of ♓. Since the ☉ represents God, God in ♑ will be the ruling force. The ☽ of the tropical chart is in ♓, another reminder of the past Great Age. In a ♄-ruled Sign, the ☉ bespeaks the continuation of material construction values though it may manifest as living in group homes rather than in family homes. ☽ in ♓ also suggests the disappearance of the family home as well as of family dominance. Strangers are the family, the family of man. As befits an Aquarian Age, communal living will emerge as the primary social organization. Since Saturnine impulses carry over, the structures are likely to be converted hi-rises in the cities, rather than group homes in the suburbs. Either way the group living aspect of ♒ is reinforced. We are likely to see strict adherence to law and order even if the values will be democratic. Look how many fights for democracy ended in dictatorships from Fidel Castro to communist China. Communism will be the dominant social/political form.[6] Remember, ♌ rules kings and celebrities. Think of the local government's being run by celebrities: Barbra Streisand and the Spice girls. Whether you use the Tropical or Sidereal Chart the outcome is pretty much the same.

THE TRANSITION

♂ ☌ ♄ in early 2020 starts the transition into the new Great Age. Events of that year should be significant. Since the time period between now and then parallels the period between 1940 and 1980 in which the Stock Market was very sluggish and mainly unprofitable, we could see the end of stock trading as a popular way to make money. We are already seeing a market that has not only lost considerable value but has been marred by the unethical practices of many corporate executives. Just as pedophilia will destroy the Christian Church, so will greed destroy capitalism.

♎ rises in Figure 2, an Air Sign for an Air conjunction. The ☉ is conjunct the 7th cusp, which reinforces the trend towards cooperation and unions. Since this means sunset, maybe this is really the chart of the end of the Piscean Age. We see the strength of the ♌ dynamic in the strong placement of the ☉ by Sign. Again, we have the conjunction in 0° ♒. Although the ☽ is in ♋, a carryover of family values, its position near the MC and in the 9th suggests family and security will come from the government and law. As a quarter-moon placement, we could see a continuing battle of the sexes before each side gives up and leaves it to the authorities and the vote. Men and women are equally strong in this chart, so we may see the last hurrah of the battle of the sexes. This also reinforces the sense that we are seeing here the end of the Piscean Age. All the malefics are in the 4th house as befits an end to the family as we know it. ♃ is there too, but weak in ♑, the Sign of the government. The chart also contains ♆ in ♓. Although the planet has come 'home' it may also be thought of as retiring to rock on the front porch as it fades away.

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[5] The sidereal chart does not show right element for the Mutation.

[6] I am currently working on a book on the Aquarian Age and the ramifications on our culture. The working title is *Music of the Spheres: Themes for the Aquarian Age*. As yet I have found no publisher.

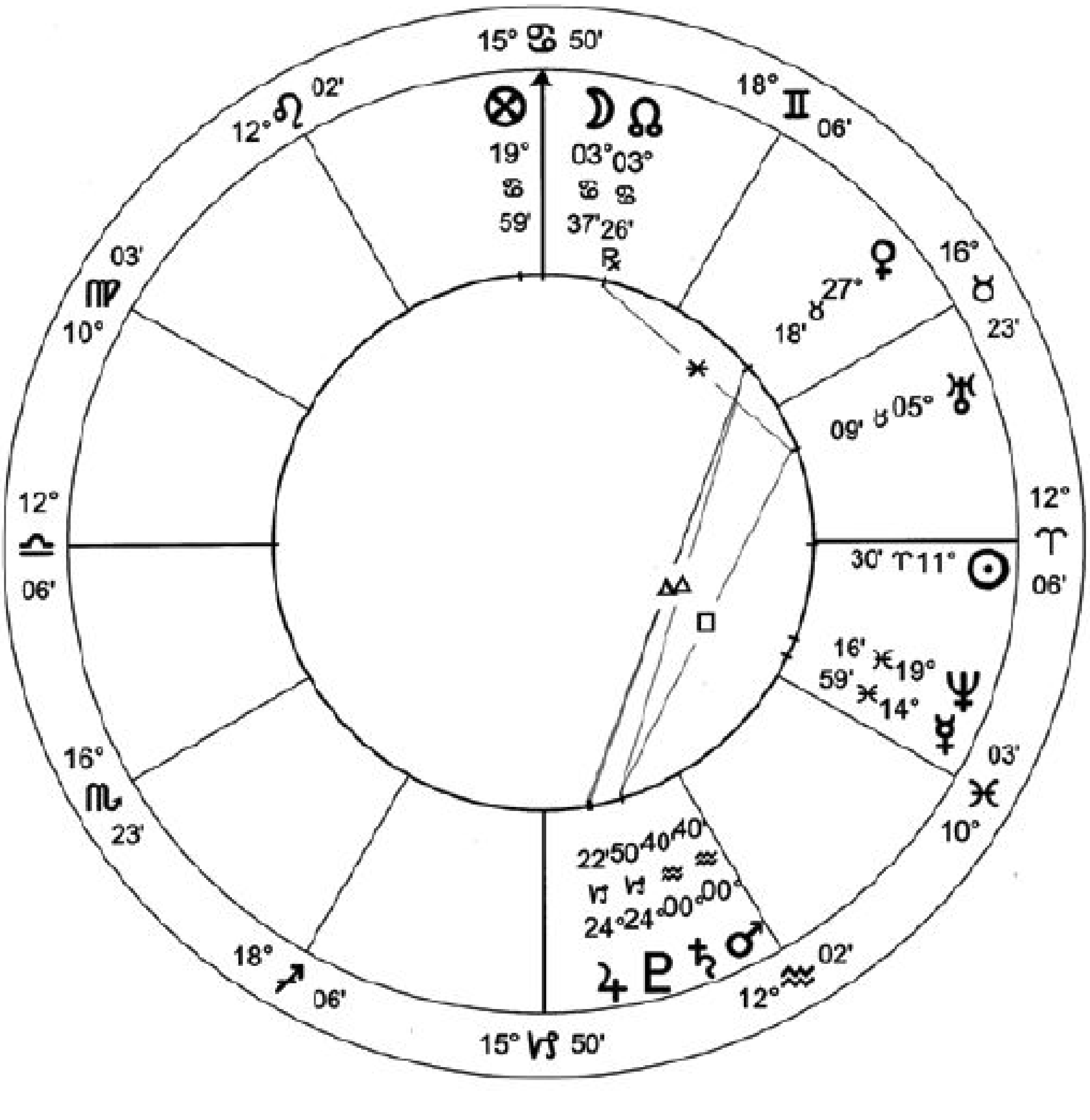

Figure 2:

♂ ☌ ♄
6:31 PM UT, 31st March 2020
Greenwich, England: 51N30 0W00

♀, the ruling planet, is in ♉ in the 8th, which suggests wealth in the hands of others. Since the 8th is also taxes, we are seeing another instance of communal values and shared resources. Look for major revisions in the tax code, which will start paving the way for a new style of government, Since the 8th is also debt, we could see a super debt here in the U.S. and maybe even government bankruptcy, which would eventually return all governance to the local level.

Isaac Newton & the Septenary[1]
Part Two

KENNET GILLMAN

Nature and Nature's laws
Lay hid in night;
God said "Let Newton be!"
And all was light.
—Alexander Pope

IN THE previous issue of this magazine known events in the life of Sir Isaac Newton FRS between his birth on Christmas Day 1642 and his 49th birthday in 1691 were listed and related to the movement of the seven classical planets in the Septenary. Here I will provide details of events in his later years, from age 49 until his death in 1726 at age 83. As we will see, the sequence of planetary rulerships for Newton after age 49-50 differs from that shown in previous explanations of this method.

From birth to age 48, each of the seven classical planets rules a seven-year period. It is directed first to the Ascendant (as it were) and then moved on in a clockwise movement to meet each of the other six classical planets. During these first 49 years of each and every individual's life all of the 7-times-7 paired combinations occur and they stimulate all facets of the complete person, providing the opportunity for him to become fully awakened. Whether this happens or not, depends entirely on whether he or she has had the courage and patience to *allow* it to happen. Did she dare to follow each of these forty-nine directions in her life's script, or did he chicken out at key moments, obstinately refusing to venture away from a comforting past?

The most obvious difference between life before age 49 and the years thereafter is one of strength and vitality: there's much less available in the later years. The physical body increasingly shows signs of wear and tear. A person now automatically starts to take things easier. This isn't old age, not quite yet, but overnight the individual becomes aware that time has distinctly accelerated; the 49th birthday past, the big Five-O attained and then (surely no more than half a dozen years later) she is in her sixties, feeling unwanted and no longer really needed in an overlarge empty home—her children grown and off leading their own lives. A major change has taken place.

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[1] My main source for events in Newton's life is *Never at Rest* by Richard S. Westfall (Cambridge University Press, 1980). All unidentified quotes come from this biography.

Ages 49-50 are when dramatic shifts in the female hormone production lead to the onset of menopause and its accompanying physical and mental effects: the biological change of life. Before then the woman's body was able to create new independent life, now this miraculous ability ceases. For some this is an enormous relief. They can now begin to pursue their own independence—"Start living my own life at last"—no longer prisoner of a merciless lunar cycle.

In men, there is a reduction in the amount of blood being circulated through the body. In turn, this causes metabolic disturbances and a general depletion of energy, loss of sex drive and potency.

For both sexes there is a slowing of psychomotor behavior. Reaction time slows, as does breathing capacity and the ability to remember and process information. The nervous system experiences a loss and reduced functioning of neurons. Speed and accuracy of work, at its peak between 35 and 48, now begins a slow decline. Intellectual creativity begins to suffer. A real change is indeed happening.

IN THE SEPTENARY the ages 49 and 50 are what I term the *Hinge Years*, a two-year period that was heralded a year earlier around the 48th birthday when the personal (classical) planet last to rise before birth came by septenary direction to the planet that had first risen in the east after birth. For Newton the ☽ is the body that rose last before his birth and at age 48 it has come in a clockwise direction to ☿, the classical planet that first came to the eastern horizon after his birth. For Newton the 48th birthday marked the final year of the seventh septenary (as it does for everyone) and, like all final years, it was both a culmination of the whole seven-year trend that began at age 42, and indeed of the full 49 years that he had lived until then, and contained within it in seed form the substance of the cycle to follow.

In each of the previous seven-year periods the last planet stimulated by the septenary ruler then became ruler of the next period. This occurs here also. In Newton's horoscope, at age 49, ☿ is now directed to the eastern horizon, just as it was in the birth year. This is again the Sunday of a new year-week.

The following year, at age 50, in exactly the same way that was described in the first part of this article, the new septenary ruler moves on in a clockwise direction and encounters the planet that ruled the previous septenary. The new stimulus for growth and expansion meets up with the immediate past on the Monday of each year-week. In the usual way of things the native meets with resistance and psychological or social conflict this year, which can be expressed in terms of the two planets involved. In each earlier encounter the urge for change as symbolized by the new septenary ruler will have predominated. Yet the planet encountered on the Monday, the significator of the immediate past, the native's conscience and habits, never gives in easily. The new impulse is necessarily adjusted, modified and adapted to what occurred in the immediate past. Only then can the new septenary ruler move on further.

That's what occurs in the first seven septenaries, at ages 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 36 and 43. It occurred the last time these two bodies met in similar circumstances, when ☿ (in Newton's chart) first crossed over the eastern horizon and met the ☽. He was one year old then and ☿ was strongly promoting and nurturing the life into being.

At age fifty, however, something different usually happens. The impulse for continued growth that began when the new ruler came to the Ascendant the previous year is now forced to bow to an inevitable law of the heavens: no body can successfully rise in the east a second time unless in-between it has experienced a setting—resurrection only ever occurs following a previous death.

The two classical bodies positioned on either side of the Ascendant at birth are immensely important—it doesn't matter which natal bodies or how far they are away from the horizon. The one below the horizon at birth (that is, the one that will rise next) represents the individual's solar energies; the one already beyond the Ascendant (that is, the one that rose last) represents his or her saturnine attributes.

At age 51 there should be a change. Newton's ☿ should fail to continue its clockwise course. It should meet a pass-me-not barrier, a firm limit, and be unable to move on to the clockwise planet after the ☽. At that time, at least in the vast majority of charts I've examined, a change of rulership occurs.

A new year-week then usually commences, one now ruled by the body that *last* rose above the Ascendant before birth. The past has finally caught up. There are no more free meals, no more gifts coming from good or bad fairies, nothing is left in the cosmic larder—the native has had it all, he now possesses everything he'll ever have (less those gifts he earlier lost or damaged, squandered, gave away or rejected). Now a person can only *be* who it is he or she really *is*.

The individual must now meet and consciously accept the limits of his or her life abilities. He'll either take satisfaction in them and know what is needed from him now or despair over all that was unattained. Mahatma Gandhi, the example used in my previous explanation[2] of the Septenary, discovered his life's work prior to age 49, and thereafter he continued his efforts to fulfill it: to bring Independence to India, to make Indians self supporting, to halt the inter-religion squabbles of the Hindus and Moslems, and to provide dignity to the Untouchables. He helped attain the first of these objectives, but was less successful with the others.

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[2] See *Considerations* VIII: 4 and IX: 1

Table 1: **The Usual 100 Years of the Septenary**

The table details the age at which each of the planetary combinations occurred in a person's life

Rising position of Septenary Ruler	*Rising position of planet stimulated by septenary ruler*						
	1st	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd
First	**0**	1	2	3	4	5	6
2nd	8	9	10	11	12	13	**7**
3rd	16	17	18	19	20	**14**	15
4th	24	25	26	27	**21**	22	23
5th	32	33	34	**28**	29	30	31
6th	40	41	**35**	36	37	38	39
Last	48	**42**	43	44	45	46	47
First	**49**	50	-	-	-	-	-
Last	52	**51**	57	56	55	54	53
6th	60	59	**58**	64	63	62	61
5th	68	67	66	**65**	71	70	69
4th	76	75	74	73	**72**	78	77
3rd	84	83	82	81	80	**79**	85
2nd	92	91	90	89	88	87	**86**
First	**93**	99	98	97	96	95	94

In the above table, the planets in the left-hand column are listed in their order of rising, in a counter-clockwise direction. The listing of planets at the top of each age column from left to right begins with the first planet to rise after birth and then gives each of the other bodies in turn, moving in a clockwise direction.

The age at which each seven-year period begins is indicated by the age in boldface. This occurs at the youngest age within a row. The planet ruling the septenary is then shown as stimulating itself (correctly it is then conjunct the Ascendant). This is the year when the influence of the septenary ruler is purest.

Within the same row, the sequence of ages commence with the age marked in boldface, then increases from left to right. If any bodies remain unallocated, the sequence of ages begins again from the left. The same sequence of planets occurs throughout, only the leading planet changes. After age 51 this direction changes, going from right to left.

In Septenary terms, at age 50 Gandhi's first rising planet failed to pass the planet that last rose before his birth. It was forced to back off and relinquish its rulership. Thereafter all was reversed. Life and death, the archetypal solar and saturnine forces, had again met in battle. Before, at age one, in the natural way of things, the rising body, the benefic life force, was the victor. This time, however, the individual will meet his nemesis in one form or another at age 49 or 50, even if only briefly, and receive clear confirmation of his or her own mortality. By age 50 the life force is no longer pure, some of it has been squandered, much is spent, and it can no longer defeat its nemesis. The victorious planet, the classical body that rose last before the birth, the indicator then of the pre-life state, now descends to the horizon and then moves below it. It moves counterclockwise (widdershins) over the natal position of the planet that had symbolized the urge to become and erases any remaining hopes of everlasting life. At this time situations occur that prompt the awareness of just how tenuous one's hold on life really is. Ill health and death are now both potential and inevitable. Consciously or unconsciously, the patterns of life have been altered.

The five years from age 48 to age 52 are critical years in a person‘s life—refer to Table 1 to review what is occurring. A life-and-death struggle is going on between the two planets, the 1st and 7th to rise, located on either side of the natal Ascendant at the time of the birth. During this time the individual comes face to face with the potentialities of his own past and the limitations of his personal future, he ceases to be an instinctive recipient of life's gifts and is asked to drastically alter his approach to life. The intent now is that be become consciously responsible for giving future direction to the society in which he lives. We are back at the axis of our world, back at the eastern horizon where it all began. But the planets are no longer rising (mother's not there pushing); now the planets are heading back whence they came.

FOR MOST PEOPLE the Septenary follows the sequence shown in Table 1. When I previously described the Septenary I believed that it applied to everyone. Recently I have come to realize that there are some people, I've only come across very few, for whom a different sequence applies. The middle-aged office worker who throws up a successful city life to go farm in Vermont or Wyoming may be one of these. So too could the couple, their children grown and out of the house, who sell up and become motor-home sun birds, wintering in Florida and summering in Minnesota. Their past is behind them, a new life lies ahead. One is tempted to suggest the individual may not have had a completely fulfilling life in his first 49 years, and that this provides much of the impetus to reject the past and continue forward in later years, and this I'm sure is so in some of these cases, but then we have Sir Isaac Newton. Newton was eminently successful in his early years and he was recognized as such, but in mid life he completely switched direction; as we will see Newton's Septenary is clearly of a different type from most.

A key year in each set of seven is the second, the Monday of each year-week, when the new life-stimulating impulse meets and has to get by the immediate past. At age 49, each of the seven planets in turn having ruled a seven-year period, the guiding authority returns to the planet that ruled the first year of life, the planet that first rose to the Ascendant following birth. We are being offered the opportunity to make a completely fresh start in life, to be reborn. Whether we do so or not depends on what occurred in the prior septenary, especially on the choices made on the Wednesday of the prior year-week, at age 45, and what happened in the following three years, at ages 46, 47 and 48, especially the last of these; whether or not this has built up sufficient impetus for us to crash through our past at age 50, when our rising planet comes to the planet that ruled the previous year-week, the planet last to rise prior to birth, which always symbolizes our past.

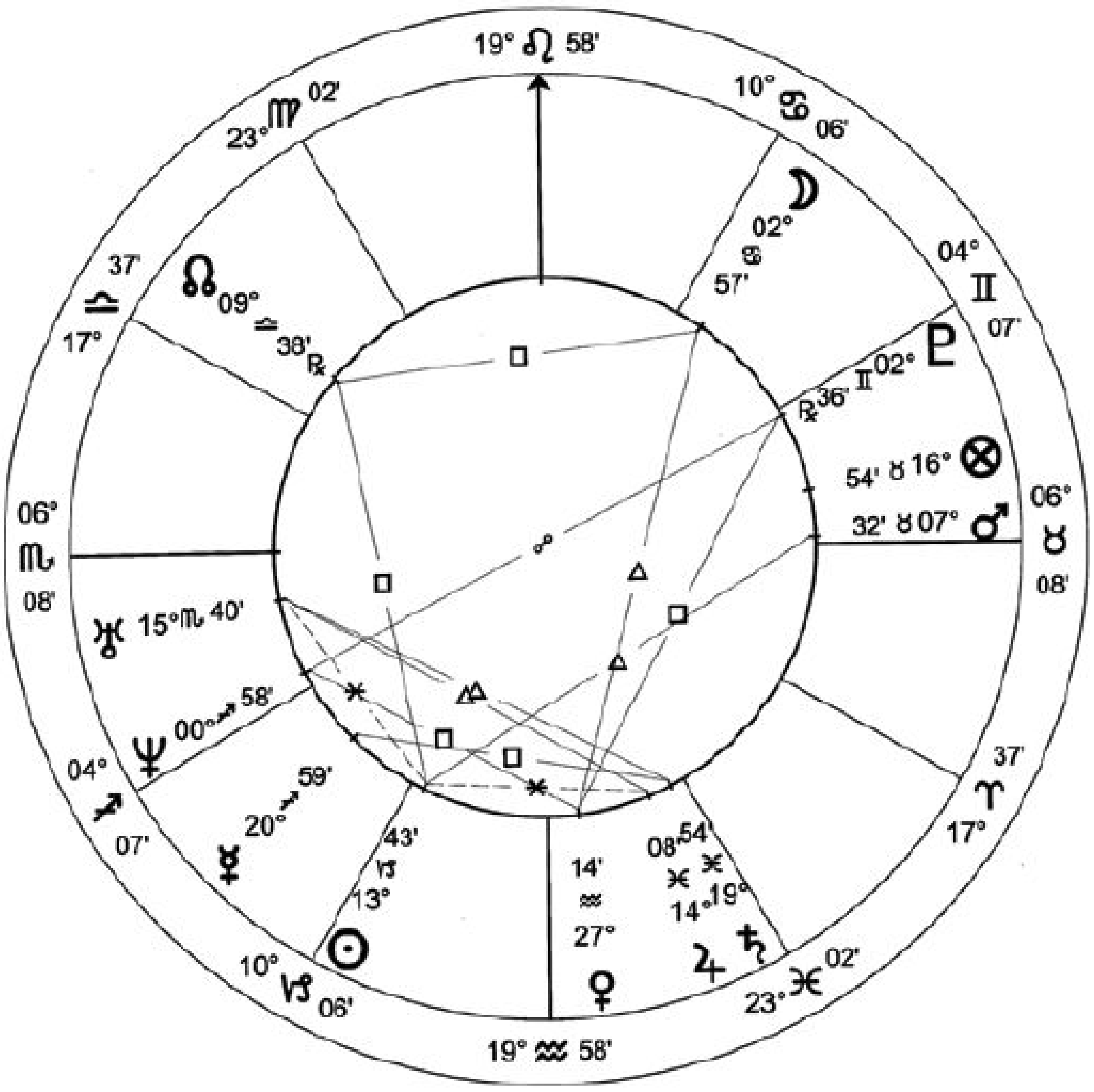

Figure 1: **Sir Isaac Newton FRS**
2:36 AM LMT (02:33 UT), 4th January 1643 (NS)
Woolsthorpe, England: 52N48, 0W37

Prior to age 49, one has apparently developed all of the talents one is capable of possessing. Now, the individual must go forward into the future without dwelling on past mistakes and deficiencies, without looking back with too much regret. This struggle between the past and the future, which occurs in everyone's life at age 50, consciously or not, is set forth in the Greek tale of Orpheus' descent into Hell:

Eurydice, wife of the musician Orpheus, fleeing a stranger's attempted rape, trod on a serpent and died of its bite. Orpheus boldly descended into Tartarus, hoping to fetch her back. On his arrival he not only charmed the ferryman Charon, the Dog Cerberus, and the three Judges of the Dead with his plaintive music, but temporarily suspended the tortures of the damned; and so far soothed the savage heart of Hades *that he won leave to restore Eurydice to the upper world. Hades made a single condition: that Orpheus might not look behind him until his wife was safely back under the light of the sun. Eurydice followed Orpheus up through the dark passage, guided by the sounds of his lyre, and it was only when he reached the sunlight again that he turned to see whether she were still behind him, and so lost her for ever.*

The Old Testament story[3] of Lot's escape from Sodom has very much the same meaning. Lot's wife, unable to restrain herself, looked back at the city she had left and was turned into a pillar of salt. She stopped, turned around, refused to proceed, and was no more.

Don't look back! Very few individuals can obey this precept. Perhaps they should not; they found their life's work during the first 49 years of their life and continue with it in the remaining years of their lives.

BEFORE describing this alternative Septenary sequence and showing how the events in Newton's life after age 49 fit in with it, we will repeat the listing of the events known to have occurred in Newton's life in the previous septenary, from age 42 to 48. These should help us better understand what happened thereafter. This seven-year period must contain clues to what occurred in the following septenary.

Age	**☽'s place**	**☽ septenary, 1685-1691 7th septenary**
42 1685	rising	Writing on calculus. February, slowly grasps the principle of universal gravitation (that every body in the world attracts every other body). Autumn, writes Book II of *Principia*. Fails to resolve the orbits of comets, corrects his explanation of the tides. During the Autumn and Winter and into early 1686 he creates the modern science of dynamics. There have been few periods that have held greater consequence for the history of Western science.
43 1686	♂	April, book I of *Principia* sent to Royal Society. June, anger at Robert Hooke saying he had told Newton of the inverse square law, a charge of plagiarism that he hotly denies. Calmed by Halley's diplomacy. Autumn, completes Book II of *Principia* in its final form—disproves the existence of the aether and defines the velocity of sound.

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[3] Genesis 19:26, "But his wife, from behind him, looked back; and she became a pillar of salt."

Age	**☽'s place**	**☽ septenary, 1685-1691 7th septenary continued**
44 1687	♄	February, political/religious crisis—King James II (Catholic) versus the University. Newton sides with the University against the king. Politics within the Royal Society, Hooke's attacks on Halley (and thus Newton) delay the publication of Book I of *Principia.* March, Book II of *Principia* to Royal Society. April, Book III of *Principia* sent to Royal Society 21 April, with seven others to London goes before Judge Jeffries and defends the University. There are further appearances on April 27, May 7 and 12 (at the last of these Newton writes the main defense). 5 July 1687, his great work, *Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy* (usually referred to simply as the *Principia*) is published to rave reviews throughout England and Europe.
45 1688	♃	Rave reviews of *Principia* throughout Europe. December, the Glorious Revolution: King James II is peacefully replaced by William of Orange as King of England.
46 1689	♀	15 January, Elected to represent the University in Parliament. Attends Parliament 22 Jan-20 Aug 89 and again from 19 Oct 89 to 27 Jan 90. 17 January, dines with the new king, William of Orange May, ill with pleurisy. 12 June, first meets Christiaan Huygens, the Dutch physicist and astronomer. The same day he begins his association with Nicolas Fatio de Diullier, a Swiss mathematician, 20 years younger than Newton. Sir Godfrey Kneller paints his portrait.
47 1690	☉	From 1690 on he is seeking a position in London, and acting as a scientific consultant.
48 1691	☿	Begins going about proving his precedence versus Leibniz with calculus. Writes a treatise explaining calculus.

The overall theme of this seventh septenary is surely of culmination and triumph. The *Principia* was the culmination of Newton's life's work. It is recognized today as the greatest scientific book ever written. In it he made public how the laws of gravitation and motion could be used to precisely predict the motions of the planets around the Sun. In one magnificent sweep he solved the principal problem of dynamical astronomy, the problem of predicting exactly the positions and motions of the planets and the stars. He also explained a wide range of previously unrelated phenomena: the eccentric orbits of comets, the tides and their variations, the precession of the Earth's axis, and the motion of the ☽ as perturbed by the gravity of the ☉.

The Principia *is the supreme expression in human thought of the mind's ability to hold the universe fixed as an object of contemplation; it is difficult to reconcile its monumental power with a number of humanly engaging but anecdotal accounts of its composition: the disheveled and half-dressed Newton, so the stories run, his crumb-filled wig askew, shambling about the evil-smelling room in which he lived and worked, muttering to himself, his thin lips half forming words, stiff with attention or slack and slumped indifferently on his unmade bed, entirely absorbed, forgetting to eat and sleeping in weak, disorganized fits, an apple rotting on the desk, the* Principia *taking shape in stages, vellum sheets piling up on the wooden desk.*[4]

Despite the greatness of the *Principia*, Newton had trouble publishing it. Hooke was unalterably opposed, and the Royal Society hesitated to become involved in the controversy (☽ to ♄). Fortunately, Halley had inherited a fortune in 1684, when his father was murdered by unknown assailants. He saw to the proofreading of the book and had it published at his own expense.

There was a second triumph in this period that coincided with the first, England's peaceful change from a catholic king to a protestant one, the Glorious Revolution. Events associated with this thrust Newton into another form of prominence that would affect the rest of his life. It occurred in the key fourth year of this septenary, the year when fundamental choices are made.

In 1685, the initial year of this septenary, at a time when the *Principia* totally absorbed Newton's consciousness, James II had come to the English throne. The same two years Newton needed to complete his work were required to bring the crisis James II precipitated to Cambridge—☽ to ♄ on the Tuesday of this year-week. King James was a fervent catholic, who understood that control of the universities was essential to his goal of reconverting England to Catholicism. He had a papist elevated by letter mandate to the mastership of Sydney Sussex College, and followed this by ordering the university to admit Alban Francis, a Benedictine monk, to the degree of Master of Arts without exercises and without taking the standard oath to "detest and abhor Popery." No one doubted that other fathers stood in the wings ready to descend in Father Francis's wake to catholicize the university. Newton, his work on the *Principia* complete, began to attend to events in the world around him. The arch-heretic threw his support to the Anglican university, contending that the law should be supreme over royal will. He wrote to the university authorities urging "an honest courage" and presented an argument for refusing to accept the king's mandate.

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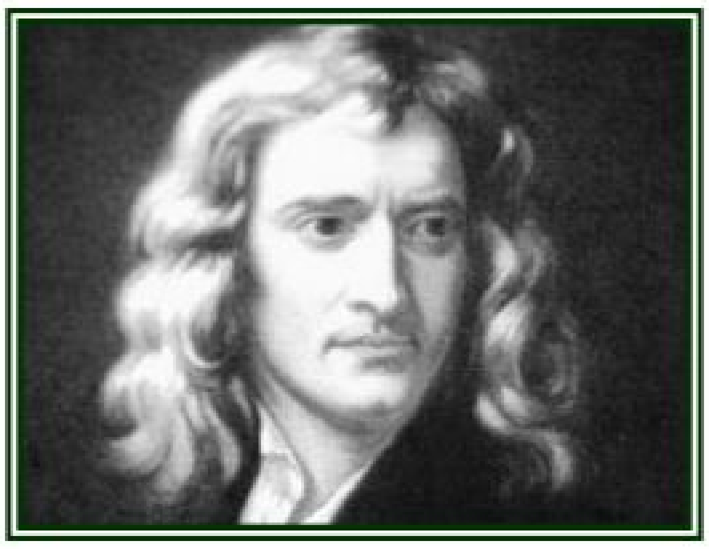
[4] David Berlinski. *A Tour of the Calculus*. New York: Vintage Books, 1997.

Initially the university did nothing. They hoped the crisis would simply go away. It didn't. The king, furious at being thwarted, summoned the representatives of the university to appear before Lord Jeffreys (the notorious hanging judge) at the Court of Ecclesiastical Commission. Newton, who had never been prominent in the university despite his scientific prowess, was unexpectedly elected among those designated to perform that duty.

Judge Jeffreys found the vice-chancellor John Peachell guilty of "an act of great disobedience," deprived him of his office, suspended him from the mastership of his college, and stripped him of his college income. Newton and the others were told they were pernicious and obstinate but their errors were attributed to Peachell. For all that, Father Francis never got his degree—not least because Newton had refused to be frightened (especially difficult in a year when the septenary ruler had come to insecure ♄) and had enjoined the others not to also.

Eighteen months later, as the ☽ came to the strong ♃ in ♓, William of Orange landed with his army in England and James fled. The peaceful revolution ratified Newton's courage and he was now a prominent figure in Cambridge, recognized as one of those who had stood up for protestant England. He became an object of the new government's patronage. He began to move in very different social circles. Within a month of William becoming king, Newton had dinner with his new sovereign (☽ to ♀). With the *Principia* receiving rave reviews throughout Europe and his new-found prominence within the university, Newton began to perceive himself in a new light,

These two major triumphs have much to do with the strength of Newton's ☽, the Septenary ruler. It is extremely strong. It is full, almost as bright as it can be, a day prior to its opposition; it is in its own sign; it is the most elevated body in the chart, and it rules the very important 9th house.



Let's move on the two important Hinge Years, ages 49 and 50. We know little about events in Newton's life when he was 49, but the little we do know is appropriate.

Age	**☿'s place**	**Events in the Two Hinge Years Start of 8th septenary**
49 1692	rising	30 December 1691, death of his friend Robert Boyle. 4 January 1692, death of Humphrey Babington, his old patron and friend.
50 1693	☽	The climax of the intense intellectual effort that follows the writing of *Principia*. The crisis terminates his creative activity in theology as well as in natural philosophy and mathematics. He devotes the remaining 34 years of his life to reworking the results of his earlier endeavors in so far as he does not allow administrative activity to absorb his time (his work in 1694/95 on the lunar theory is a single exception). Spring, writing *Praxis*, an alchemical essay. August, under extreme emotional stress. Fall, mental breakdown and derangement. This is his black time, the manic euphoria that had borne him forward since the twin triumphs of the *Principia* and the Glorious Revolution ends and he plumbs the depths of an ensuing depression and disillusionment. The breakdown may have been due to chronic mercury poisoning (symptoms agree) from alchemical experiments. A fire destroys his laboratory and some of his papers. Combined with his break-up with Fatio, and the added stress and sense of humiliation he feels soliciting an appointment in London, this contributes to the temporary loss of his mind.

Ages 49 and 50 are key turning points of any life, they always produce stress. Newton was no exception. The deaths of two close friends within a few days as 1691 turned into 1692 made Newton aware that he too was no longer a young man. This in turn prompted an intense, almost manic, intellectual activity as he attempted to pick up the scattered loose threads of earlier inquiries and to weave them into a coherent whole worthy of the author of the *Principia*. This was his last intense intellectual endeavor.

In the early 90s there had been an intense, systematic study of alchemy. He compiled an extraordinary *Index Chemicus*. Although never completed, it was and continues to be unique; no similar index to the vast literature of alchemy has ever been compiled. In the spring and summer of 1693 he was writing *Praxis*, which he intended to be his most important alchemical essay. Yet after 1693 there is no evidence of any more alchemical experiments; certainly there were none after he moved to London in 1696. He no longer spent any significant time on the subject. After nearly thirty years of intense devotion to alchemy it ended in disillusionment. For a while he continued to acquire alchemy books but he no longer read them.

What happened? One can only guess. The young Swiss mathematician, Nicholas Fatio de Duillier, a close friend whom he had met in 1689, seems to have played a key role—a later-day Edward Kelley who cast Newton as John Dee?[5] In May 1693 Fatio wrote telling Newton that he had a friend who knew a process by which gold amalgamated with mercury vegetates and grows. A day or so later he followed this with another letter, saying that the friend had made a medicine from this mercury which could cure consumption and free the body of black bile, the cause of nine diseases in ten. They expected to make a fortune, but seed money was required. Would Newton come to London to advise them? Newton went to London on 30th May. He stayed a week. For several months that summer he experimented in his laboratory. Then his laboratory burnt down—by a disillusioned Newton, realizing that he had been duped? Newton's close relationship with Fatio ended that summer.

In 1693 ☿, the first planet to rise after Newton's birth, signifier of his future, had again come to the place of the ☽, the planet that signifies Newton's past. Now the ☽ can be said to signify all of Newton's previous life, most of which had been spent investigating alchemy. Usually, at this time, at age 50, as we've seen, the past clamps down on any future; it does not allow the rising planet to go any further. The past becomes the future; an individual has attained all of the abilities, all of the tools he needs for the remainder of his life. He can rise to new levels of responsibility, take on new tasks, move to another country, marry someone else, and so on, but in doing so he (or she) does so using the various attributes, the different skills, that were acquired in the first 49 years of life.

This is what usually happens. It happened with a saint, the Mahatma Gandhi, and with the chameleon actor Laurence Olivier, the two previous Septenary examples described in *Considerations*. After age 50 each of these two continued very much along the lines their earlier lives had indicated. They took on more responsibilities, but basically they simply improved on what they had previously been doing, they attacked very much the same problems with very much the same skills.

This did not happen with Isaac Newton. Usually the past resists the impetus of the future and the ☽ (Newton's past) should have stopped ☿ (Newton's future) dead in its tracks. At age 50, when the rising planet rises to meet the body that last rose before birth for the second time, this invariably occurs. In the second year of life the rising planet will get past and go on in a clockwise direction to the other classical planets, but not at their second encounter at age 50. It just doesn't happen. Yet in the case of Newton it did!

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[5] Newton had met Fatio the year the septenary ruler came to ♀. For four years the pair enjoyed an intense, very close friendship and, given the absence of any attraction to women in Newton's life, one wonders just how intimate the relationship between the pair was—☽ ☌ ♀ in the 12th house of Newton's 1693 solar return (see Figure 2) tends to awaken one's suspicions, as does the tension we know he experienced back in 1677 when his long-time room-mate Wickin spoke of leaving the college—although this is a matter concerning which the great man's biographers are silent.

Or so this writer believes. A few other cases have since been found in which there is strong evidence that in these too the normal Septenary process does not hold up.

Table 3:

The Unusual 97 Years of the Septenary

The table details the age at which each of the planetary Combinations occurred in Newton's life

Septenary Ruler		*Planet stimulated by septenary ruler*						
		☿	☽	♂	♄	♃	♀	☉
		1st	7th	6th	5th	4th	3rd	2nd
1st	☿	**0**	1	2	3	4	5	6
2nd	☉	8	9	10	11	12	13	**7**
3rd	♀	16	17	18	19	20	**14**	15
4th	♃	24	25	26	27	**21**	22	23
5th	♄	32	33	34	**28**	29	30	31
6th	♂	40	41	**35**	36	37	38	39
7th	☽	48	**42**	43	44	45	46	47
1st	☿	**49**	50	51	52	53	54	55
2nd	☉	57	58	59	60	61	62	**56**
3rd	☽	65	66	67	68	69	**63**	64
4th	♃	73	74	75	76	**70**	71	72
5th	♄	81	82	83	**77**	78	79	80
6th	♂	89	90	**84**	85	86	87	88
7th	♀	97	**91**	92	93	94	95	96

In Newton's case, at age 50 when ☿ came to the ☽ for the second time in his life, when his future again met his resisting past, unusually it was the past that gave way—but not without a struggle, a tremendous struggle that almost killed him. Much that Newton had come to believe to be true, on which he would have staked his life, on which he had concentrated his powerful intellect, proved to be simply an illusion—before ♆ was discovered an astrologer would have associated illusions with the ☽. He discovered that his world, at least his alchemical world and his understanding of matter, was been built on false foundations. No wonder he sunk into a deep depression and for a time lost his mind, no wonder there were strong rumors throughout Europe that he was dead.

Although the Septenary is a powerful tool, it is unwise to ignore other reliable tools. Newton's solar return for 1693 (see Figure 2) confirms that this year would be one of major importance, just as Septenary theory suggests. His mental problems that year are shown by the SR ♄ □ ♆, with both bodies semisquare ☿ ☌ ☊ at their midpoint, closely aspecting his natal ♃ ☌ ♄. A further indication of disillusionment is given by the SR's 12th house ☽ ☌ ♀ (Fatio?) on natal ♆ and opposing natal ♇, while the laboratory fire is indicated by the SR ♂ opposing the place of natal ☽. This is an extremely difficult solar return, a dramatic change of life direction being indicated by the Ascendant being opposed by transiting ♃ and ♅ and at their midpoint.

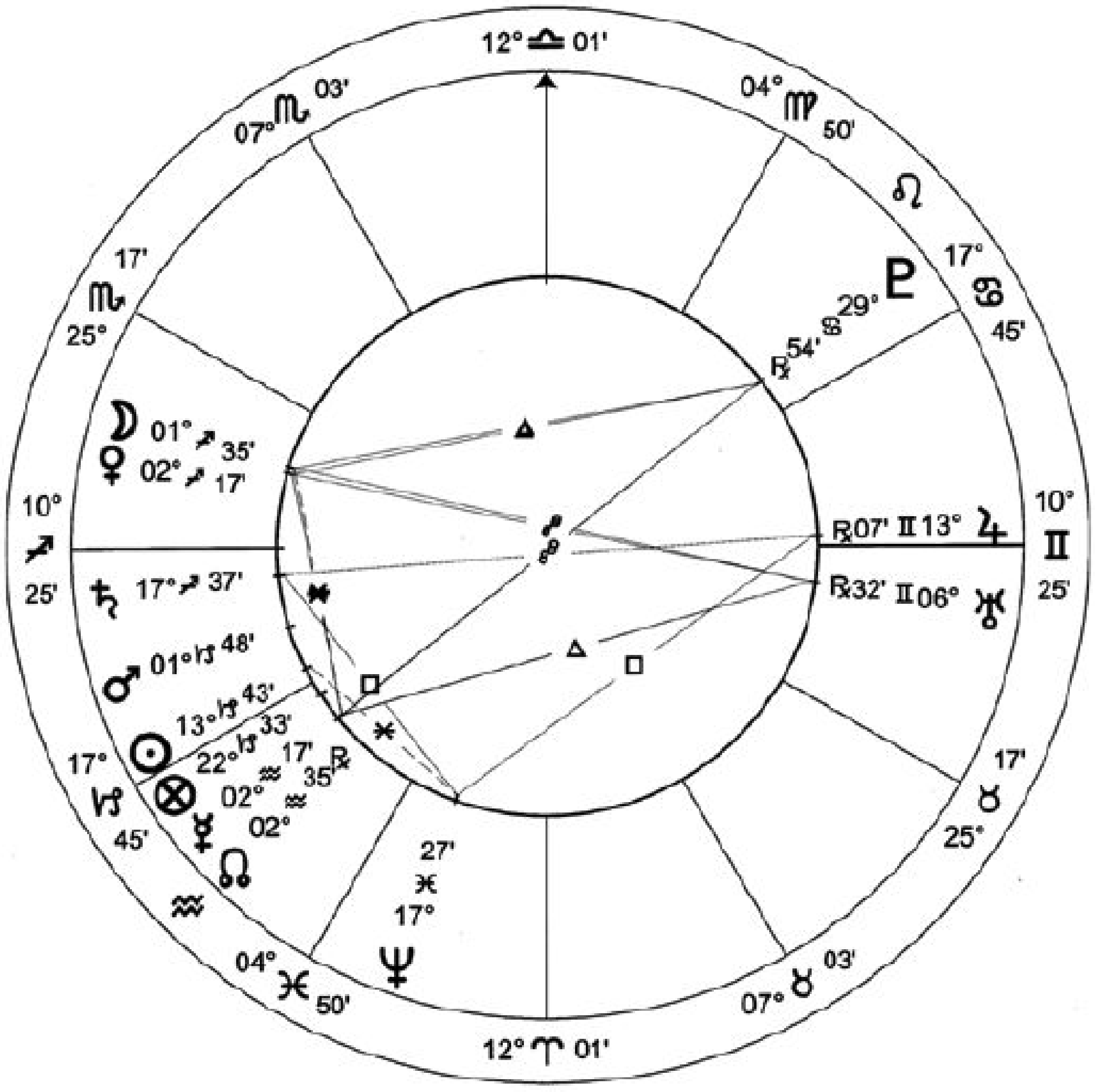
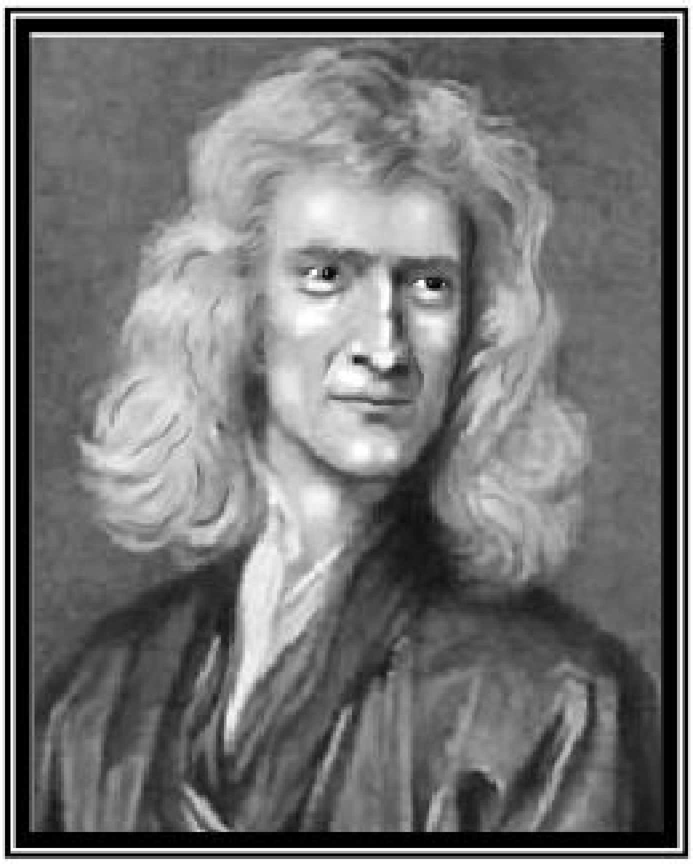


Figure 3: **Newton's 1693 solar return**
5:50 AM LMT, 3rd January 1693
Woolsthorpe, England: 52N48, 0W37



Remember Lot's wife, whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it, and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it—Luke 17:32.

Age	☿'s place	☿ Septenary, 1692-1698 8th septenary, continued
51 1694	♂	Rumors of his death. Recasting *Optics.* Summer, for a year his attention is dominated by his work on the lunar theory, one of the most difficult problems in the *Principia*. September, to Greenwich asking John Flamsteed, the Astronomer Royal, for Moon observations. October, he needs more Moon observations. He is having difficulties with the Lunar theory and arguing with Flamsteed
52 1695	♄	Rumors of his death continue. March, completes refraction theory and table. He improves but does not perfect the lunar theory (three-body problem). He regards this as a failure. He contributes nothing to the problem. It is a debacle. Fall, Writes a short essay 'concerning the amendment of English coins.'
53 1696	♃	March, appointed Warden of the Mint and leaves Cambridge to take up his position in London. Involved in recoinage.
54 1697	♀	Recoinage continues. 29 January, receives two challenge problems from Johann Bernoulli (Leibniz is also involved in making this challenge), which he solves between 4 in the afternoon, when he receives it, and 4 the following morning, not sleeping until he did so, Has a great sense of triumph. Elected to the council of the Royal Society but does not attend its meetings. September, investigating the Moon
55 1698	☉	Tsar Peter I of Russia, on his Grand Tour, asks to meet him. Spring, Jacques Cassini visits and offers him a large pension from Louis XV which he declines. Recoinage is completed. Problems with John Flamsteed

Newton is troubled. He is deranged. He has lost his mind. Throughout Europe rumors are rife: he is dead, burnt to death in the fire that destroyed his laboratory at Cambridge; he is crazy, shut off from everyone in an asylum for his own protection. But he recovered. Life obviously demanded more from this genius.

I don't know what exactly happened. Something certainly did. Enough so that the events that occurred during the remainder of his life can no longer be associated with the standard Septenary. After age 50, the expected sequence of planets does not hold up. Somehow, seemingly, Newton's life force was able to force itself beyond the pass-me-not barrier and continue its clockwise movement around the horoscopic circle. The planetary turn-about that occurred in Gandhi's life, in Laurence

Olivier's life, and in the lives of the dozens of individuals I have studied in Septenary terms over the years is absent in Newton's life. There is no turn-about, no switch from clockwise to anticlockwise. Instead, like the Ever Ready Bunny, the man just kept on going and going and going, but in doing so he seems to have heeded the commands the angels gave Lot when they ordered him to leave Sodom and not look back, see Table 3.

Let's briefly consider the broad, very basic symbolism of the years, 1693-1698: events in each of them fit with the basic symbolism of the planet ☿ is brought to by septenary direction.

In 1693, the second hinge year, ☿ meets with the ☽, significator of his past, and this as we have seen brought about a major crisis.

The following year, 1694, the septenary ruler comes to ♂—the year begins with a fire and ends with Newton blaming the Astronomer Royal John Flamsteed for his own difficulties, arguing with everyone.

1695 was an extremely important year. ☿ comes to ♄; if taken as the 4th year of the set of seven, as I suggest, this is the Wednesday of the year-week, a time of meaningful choices, a time for growth or disintegration. For Newton it is a year of failure. The previous time ☿ came to ♄, at age 3 in 1745, was when his mother remarried and left him. That was his first known failure; he was unable to retain his most prized possession, his mother. The second time around was the culmination of a series of apparent failures—loss of two friends in 1692, the disillusions of 1693, and his failure now and in the previous year to solve the lunar three-body problem. His intellectual creativity—his most prized possession—had failed him. He experienced deep humiliation in 1695, as he must have done at age three (and as he certainly did with the Fatio episode in 1693), an experience this time clearly signified by ☿ ☌ ♄ in ♓. He seems to have had difficulty accepting this failure for he persisted in dabbling with the three-body problem over the years, always blaming Flamsteed for not providing accurate data (Flamsteed in turn pointed to errors in Newton's refraction table), but 1695 marked the end of his true scientific research. It was as much a turning point in his life as his mother abandoning him in 1745 had been.

He recognized he had to switch the direction of his life. His decision that same Wednesday of this day-week (the time when key choices are made) to write a short essay on coinage, which prompted his move the following year from Cambridge to a relatively minor bureaucratic post in London, may seem incomprehensible without the understanding the septenary provides. Newton had realized that his creative energy was ebbing and the advantages in Cambridge for uninterrupted leisure to pursue his studies no longer held him—with his alchemical experiments ended he no longer needed the ovens there. Indeed, his failures in the years 1693-95 may well have driven him to escape from unproductive leisure into concrete activity.

At age 53, year the septenary's keynote should be revealed. ☿ arrives at the place of ♃ and he gains the sought-after position in London, at the Royal Mint.

The Mint was experiencing a major crisis. Clipping and counterfeiting of coins had become a major problem. Newton's 1695 essay was a response to this. That year Parliament passed a recoinage act, to commence in 1696; the old hammered coins were to be withdrawn and melted down and replaced by new machined coins with milled edges so they could not be clipped. Recoinage immediately became a trauma that reached its climax just as Newton arrived at the Mint in March—as the old coins were being withdrawn insufficient new coins were yet available for the necessary transactions of daily life. Newton was responsible for completing this process.

In the perspective of history, the recoinage is nothing in comparison to the *Principia*. Even so, Newton had made his choice. With his ☉ in ♑ he was a born administrator and the Mint soon felt the benefit. He provided the necessary energetic and intelligent leadership. His first step, as in every new intellectual undertaking he ever undertook, was to compose an index to help him organize his knowledge. He learned by entering known facts in their proper place. He studied each of the operations of the Mint in detail, undertaking a systematic study both of the Mint's history and of its present operation. He quickly mastered its operation and had it running far more efficiently than it had ever done in the past. In its first two years under Newton's leadership, the time it took to complete the recoinage, the Mint recoined double the total coinage, measured in number of coins, of the previous thirty years. Without prior experience, after a cloistered life devoted solely to study, Newton undertook his first practical task and did so with distinction.

One of his responsibilities as Warden was the apprehension and prosecution of coiners and clippers. His first reaction was to shrink from doing so. He argued that this task belonged properly to the Solicitor General but the council that governed England while King William campaigned on the Continent insisted it was Newton's responsibility. Unable to avoid the obligation, he plunged into it with his customary ♏ thoroughness. He spent much time gathering evidence and running spies to discover the coiners and clippers whom he regarded with special venom and had many executed. The coiners and clippers had never known a prosecutor so pertinacious; they in turn came to regard him with equal loathing.

☿ □ ♄ is a key aspect in Newton's horoscope. It is especially important because ☿ is the first planet that will rise after his birth. He gave him a very serious and composed frame of mind, full of thought. He spoke little in company and didn't want his name on mathematical books by others that he greatly improved, and he refused for years to publish his own work. He was wary about giving away his results to others. He shared little, his mathematics was a private possession shared as long as possible with no one. He was never finally satisfied with any of his work, wanting to revise it even after it was published. He ate and drank moderately (♄ in 5th in ♓), only partook of wine with dinner, otherwise drank water.

In 1697 when the septenary-ruler meets ♀, ruler of his 7th, he accepts a challenge from Bernoulli and Leibnitz. As the sixth of the seven years, this is when what is implied in the year-week should bear fruit. Newton's election to the council of the Royal Society meets this criterion, for he is known not only for his many discoveries but also for the important role he played at the Royal Society.

Finally in 1698, as the septenary-ruler comes to his ☉, two great kings knock on his door.

Such symbolism only occurs with events in Newton's life if we adopt the unusual clockwise movement suggested here; it is absent with the 'normal' septenary sequencing. The reverse does not hold true, the clockwise movement after age 49 does not hold for Gandhi, Olivier or the many other charts I've tested it on—I did have to check.

Age	**☉'s place**	**☉ Septenary, 1699-17** **9th septenary**
56 1699	rising	Summer, asked by navy to judge a proposal for determining longitude. From this he makes an improved sextant.
57 1700	☿	25 December 1699, promoted to be the Master of the Mint on his 57th birthday. 23 December 1700, formal contract "indenture" between the Queen and Newton as master of the Mint. Now he can lead a life of material plenty.
58 1701	☽	6 August 1701, 10 a.m., first trial of his coinage, a solemn and public scrutiny of his honesty and accuracy. All pass scrutiny. 10 December, finally resigns his fellowship and chair at Cambridge 20 December, sits as MP for Cambridge in Parliament
59 1702	♂	Designs commemorative medal for the coronation of Queen Anne. July, writes report on the relative valuations of gold and silver throughout Europe.
60 1703	♄	Death of his enemy Robert Hooke. 30 November, elected President of the Royal Society
61 1704	♃	*Optics* published. This is the second pillar of Newton's imperishable reputation in science.

Age	☉'s place	☉ Septenary, 1699-17 9th septenary continued
62 1705	♀	16 April, knighted by Queen Anne, the first scientist to be so honored. 17 May, fails to be reelected as MP for Cambridge, he is last of four. Very shaken. This is the end of his parliamentary career.

There were many major events in the 1699-1705 ☉-ruled septenary, all apparently adding to his reputation. In 1700 the ☉ came to ☿, the MC-ruler being directed to the life-ruler: he was promoted (☉ rules the MC), there was a contract (☿) with Queen Anne (☉) and he was on his way to becoming very wealthy (☿ in 2nd).

1701 was the year he first faced the public Trial of the Pyx. A certain number of coins from each batch that were minted were put into a special box (the pyx) with three locks, the keys to which were held by three different individuals. Periodically, the two pyxes (one for gold, the other for silver coins) were opened in the presence of the queen and the coins were examined "by fire, by water, by touch or by weight or by all or some of them, in the most just and exact manner that can be thought of, it being a matter of very public concern." Such a public examination of one's honesty is appropriate in a year the ☽ was being stimulated by the septenary ruler. In the same year he finally left Cambridge, relocation being another typical ☽ event.

♂ in his 7th was stimulated in 1702 and he wrote *comparing relative* valuations, very much a 7th-house way of doing things.

The Mint did not entirely dominate Newton's life in London. When the ☉ came to ♄ in 1703 there was the death of his enemy Robert Hooke, who had earlier accused Newton of stealing his ideas, and in this year that septenary theory says the keynote of the seven-year week is revealed he was elected President of the Royal Society. At the Royal Society he brought the same qualities he exercised at the Mint, administrative talent and a constitutional inability to slough off an obligation he had agreed to shoulder. The society's fortunes quickly revived, the level of the lectures soon improved, and membership increased (doubling during his years in office). Over the next twenty years he missed very few weekly meeting.

Yet ☉ to ♄ is a difficult aspect. It goes a long way to describing how Newton was as president of the Royal Society. He has been described as "Imperious, unable to participate without domineering. Impatient with contradiction, which manifested itself when he was a young man in a readiness to throw caution to the winds in challenging established authorities, he became in old age tyrannical with a need to dominate, an unlovely trait. His despotic domination of the Royal Society alienated those who would not hesitate to acknowledge his intellectual primacy”.

Optics, was a detailed explanation of his ground-breaking discoveries on the nature of light, first presented before the Royal Society in 1672. He had found ordinary white light to be a mixture of all the colors in the rainbow, and carefully analyzed the consequences of the reflection and refraction of light. Using these findings, he had in 1671 designed and actually built the first reflecting telescope, the same type that is used in most major astronomical observatories today. Appropriately, for it is recognized as the second pillar of Newton’s imperishable reputation in science, *Optics* was published as the ☉ came to ♃ in the sixth year of the year-week, the year what is implied in the septenary now bears fruit.

Finally, in 1705, the last of the seven, the saturnine year in which there can be a culmination, he was knighted by the queen, the first scientist ever to receive that honor. Unfortunately, it was ♀ that the ☉ was stimulating that same year, a planet that ever gave Newton problems. True to form, as ruler of Newton’s 7th house, she gave his opponents power over him, halting his bid for reelection to parliament by placing him last out of four. Because this was the seed year for the next septenary, she gave clear warning that problems lay ahead.

Age	**♀’s place**	**♀ septenary, 1706-1712 10th septenary**
63	rising	Expanded edition in Latin of *Optics* published.
64 1707	☉	His lectures on Algebra are published as *Arithmetica universalis*. He isn’t pleased by its title or content. Very involved in the printing of Flamsteed’s catalog of stars, but by his actions showing himself in a very bad light.
65 1708	☿	Involved in Scottish recoinage, even though he doesn’t leave London.
66 1709	☽	Work begins in earnest on the second edition of *Principia.* Moves house, to Chelsea
67 1710	♂	Making final revisions on the second edition of *Principia* as it is being printed. Moves house to Leicester Square, where he stays 15 years. William Whiston is stripped of his chair and banished from the university as an Arianist.
68 1711	♄	22 March, letter from Leibniz (dated 4 March 1711) to Royal Society opens the priority dispute, This dominates Newton’s conscious, virtually sweeping all else from his mind. He is furious. War is declared. 5-10 May, tension at the Mint 2 August, Royal Society moves into it own premises for the first time. 26 October, furious scene with John Flamsteed, who calls him an atheist.
69	♃	?

With ♀, the planet that least cares for ♏, Newton's rising sign, as septenary-ruler 1706-1712 were not happy years. ♀ is in the 4th house and there were several relocations, both of Newton's residence and of the Royal Society, which remind us that in 1661, when ♀ was previously on ♂, he had left home to first go to Cambridge.

In 1662, when ♀ came to ♄, Newton had experienced a religious crisis. In 1711 he faced something similar, being shocked and furious that Leibniz, to whom he had written showing details of Calculus, should claim he himself was its discoverer.

William Whiston's trial by the university in 1710 must have been extremely difficult for Newton. Whiston was very much Newton's man: his chosen successor in the Lucasian chair in Cambridge, the publisher the previous year of Newton's *Arithmetica universalis*, and one of his disciples with whom he spent evenings discussing theology. Whiston's Arianism was virtually identical to Newton's. But "he did not share Newton's 'fearful, cautious, and suspicious temper;' having found the truth, he mounted the barricades to defend it" and had preached his views openly in Cambridge.

With ♂ closely opposing Newton's Ascendant—but not harming him for it is aspecting its own sign—it comes as no surprise that he easily lost his patience with others. There were several furious scenes with John Flamsteed over the years

Age	**♃'s place**	**♃ septenary, 1713-1719 11th septenary**
70 1713	rising	Royal Society publishes report (written anonymously by Newton) on its investigation into the priority of calculus. 18 June, second edition of *Principia* is finally printed 29 July, furious when Leibniz paper that attacks him is published.
71 1714	♀	April, writes paper calling for the devaluation of the gold guinea. 22 December, the Government acting on his recommendation devalues the guinea. Samuel Clarke, master of Trinity, accuses him oif being an Arian.
72	☉	?
73	☿	Leibniz dies
74	☽	Revises *Optics* for a new edition in English. 26 August, niece Catherine (she was living with him) marries.
75	♂	Has his correspondence with Leibniz published
76	♄	Publishes second Latin edition of *Optics*. Flamsteed dies.

His niece Catherine Barton, the only female mentioned in Newton's biography other than his mother, was acclaimed in London for her wit and beauty. Voltaire wrote about her, as did Jonathan Swift. She had been either mistress or the secret wife of Charles Montague, Lord Halifax, who left her a fortune in his will "for her excellent conversation." On the death of Halifax she had come to live with Newton and had immediately made his dinner table sparkle with her wit and charm. She was still beautiful and charming at 38 when she married 29-year-old John Conduitt in 1717, the year ♃ appropriately came to the ☽ in Newton's septenary. Conduitt worshipped Newton unabashedly as a hero. "Although Conduitt's own capabilities may have been limited, he recognized that he stood in the presence of one of the geniuses of the ages, and he vowed to respond adequately to the opportunity." He became Newton's first biographer, writing down accounts of their conversations and collecting anecdotes about him.

Optics provides a connection between 1719 and 1670. In both years ♃ was directed to ♄. 1670 was the year Newton gave his very first lecture as Lucasian professor; he chose optics then as his subject.

In his old age Newton sat for many portraits, as if obsessed with history's view of him.

Age	**♄'s place**	**♄ septenary, 1720-1726** **12th septenary**
77	rising	Sells part of his South Sea stock
78	♃	Third English edition of *Optics* appears
79	♀	Serious illness. French edition of *Optics* appears.
80 1723	☉	Seriously ill for 2½ months. Fall, the printing of a new edition of *Principia* begins.
81	☿	?
82	☽	Violent cough and inflammation of the lungs
83 1726	♂	12 January, dates the preface to the new edition of *Principia.* 1 April, first copy of the new edition of *Principia* presented to the Royal Society. 2 March, presides for the last time at the Royal Society Monday, 20 March 1726 about 1 AM, dies in Kensington, aged 83 years 85 days (83.23288 years)

Several illnesses, increasing in their seriousness, occurred in this ♄ septenary. They culminated in the seventh year when ♄ directed to ♂, ruler of his Ascendant, brought death (his mother died the year ♂ came to ♄). In his 84th year Sir Isaac Newton FRS was buried in Westminster Abbey, the first scientist to be accorded that honor.

Most people lost enormous amounts of money investing in the South Sea Bubble. Newton was an exception; he gained an immense profit by selling early, doing so appropriately at the start of this ♄ Septenary.

Before Newton, science was a hodgepodge of isolated facts and laws, capable of describing some phenomena but of predicting only a few; he left us with a unified system of laws, which were capable of application to an enormous range of physical phenomena, and which could be used to make exact predictions. He wasn't a pleasant man, overly secretive and suspicious, much too quick to take offense if he thought himself slighted in any way; but he explained calculus, the nature of light, gravity, and how material objects move. He also made significant contributions in thermodynamics and acoustics, enunciated the physical principles of the conservation of momentum, discovered the binomial theorem, and was the first to accurately explain the origin of the stars. He was by far the greatest and most influential scientist who ever lived.

He was also an exception to the way in which the Septenary usually goes in an individual's life.

Errata

Please amend the following in *Considerations* XVIII: 2:

Page 2, 3rd paragraph, 2nd line.
Amend to read:
"and was squaring the eclipse MC. On 13th April, as the war ended, ♇"

Page 12, 2nd paragraph, 3rd line.
Amend to read:
"and so many years ago have been effective in predicting events in"

Page 47, final paragraph, 2nd line.
Amend to read:
"years old. Look at Figure 3, with ☿ on the Ascendant. ♄, the third"

Page 49, first of the two tables, second age line:
Amend the year associated with age 12 to read: 1655.

Page 51, last of the age divisions:
Amend the year associated with age 27 to read: 1670

Page 53, last line:
Change 1796 to read 1696

Page 54, 2nd paragraph below table, 6th line.
Amend to read:
"ies also fall into the 'past' category, and we've already seen in his 20th"

Let's Consider

Nicholas Sutherland *writes* that Saddam Hussein's birth data is in question.

Con Coughlin, executive editor for London's *Sunday Telegraph* and one of the world's leading authorities on the Middle East, spent three years researching his latest book *Saddam, King of Terror*.

He first points out that Saddam was born in the village of Al-Ouja eight kilometers south of Tikrit—not in Tikrit. Al-Ouja was then a collection of mud huts and houses where peasants lived in abject poverty. At this time it was the custom of authorities to give all peasant children the nominal birth date of July 1, and there is a certificate in one of Saddam's official biographies which gives July 1, 1939 as his date of birth.

Saddam acquired his 'official' birth date, which was made a national holiday in 1980, by simply taking the birthday from his friend and future co-conspirator Abdul Karim al-Shaikly. This friend, from a well-established Baghdad family, possessed an authentic birth date.

Apparently Saddam wanted to also be older than he was, so he changed his year of birth from 1939 to 1937. His wife was born in 1937 and in Arab society it is frowned upon to marry an older woman. Also, appearing older probably helped his rapid ascent through the ranks of the Baath Party.

Saddam King of Terror by Con Coughlin is published by Harper Collins Publishers Inc., 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022.

—San Antonio, Texas

Nancy Holtz *writes:*

I agree with the letter writer [in another journal] who has always doubted the guilt of Bruno Hauptmann as I have done research on this crime. There is some evidence that the New Jersey police had to find someone to pin the crime on, as it concerned such a famous man, and that what was found at Hauptmann's home had been planted there by the police. But there has also been some suspicion that the baby's death was the result of an accident when Lindbergh was playing with him. Hauptmann was a man with a checkered past (and was a German as well!) I just don't agree with Saunders that there is no doubt that Hauptmann was guilty....and to tell that from a chart? (Though Dr. Koch, when I was translating for him in Germany, had Richard Speck's chart and claimed, with justification, that there was no doubt Speck was the guilty man.)

I was interested in your piece on Newton, as I quoted from his "Chronology of Ancient Kingdoms Amended" (which he wished to keep secret) in my article "The Precession of the Equinoxes: A Secret Influence on Great Thinkers of the Past." That he had Scorpio rising also helps to explain his interest in the occult. *Horoscope* magazine just bought this article, but my correspondent at Dell says it won't be published until after October anyway. I would guess it will be in the Aquarius issue.

—Beverly, Massachusetts

Robert & Bonnie Lee Blake

VIRGINIA REYER

THE ACTOR, film director and producer Robert Blake was born Michael Vijencio Gibitosi to James and Elizabeth Gibitosi, a professional song-and-dance team, in September 1933. He began performing with his family's vaudeville act at an early age and quickly gained a part in the successful "Our Gang" films (also known as "The Little Rascals"). In the early 1940s he played different film roles and changed his name to Bobby Blake. He was drafted into the military from 1950 to 1952, where he became addicted to heroin and spent time in the stockade. On his release he worked as a stuntman (1953) and tried to get TV roles and return to acting. He attained success in the mid-70s as the star of the television series *Baretta*, won an Emmy and was a frequent face on *The Tonight Show*, but soon gained a reputation of being difficult to work with; the word spread that he was struggling with drugs and alcohol. He began a self-imposed exile from show business, trying to take charge of his own life, but whatever his problem it seems

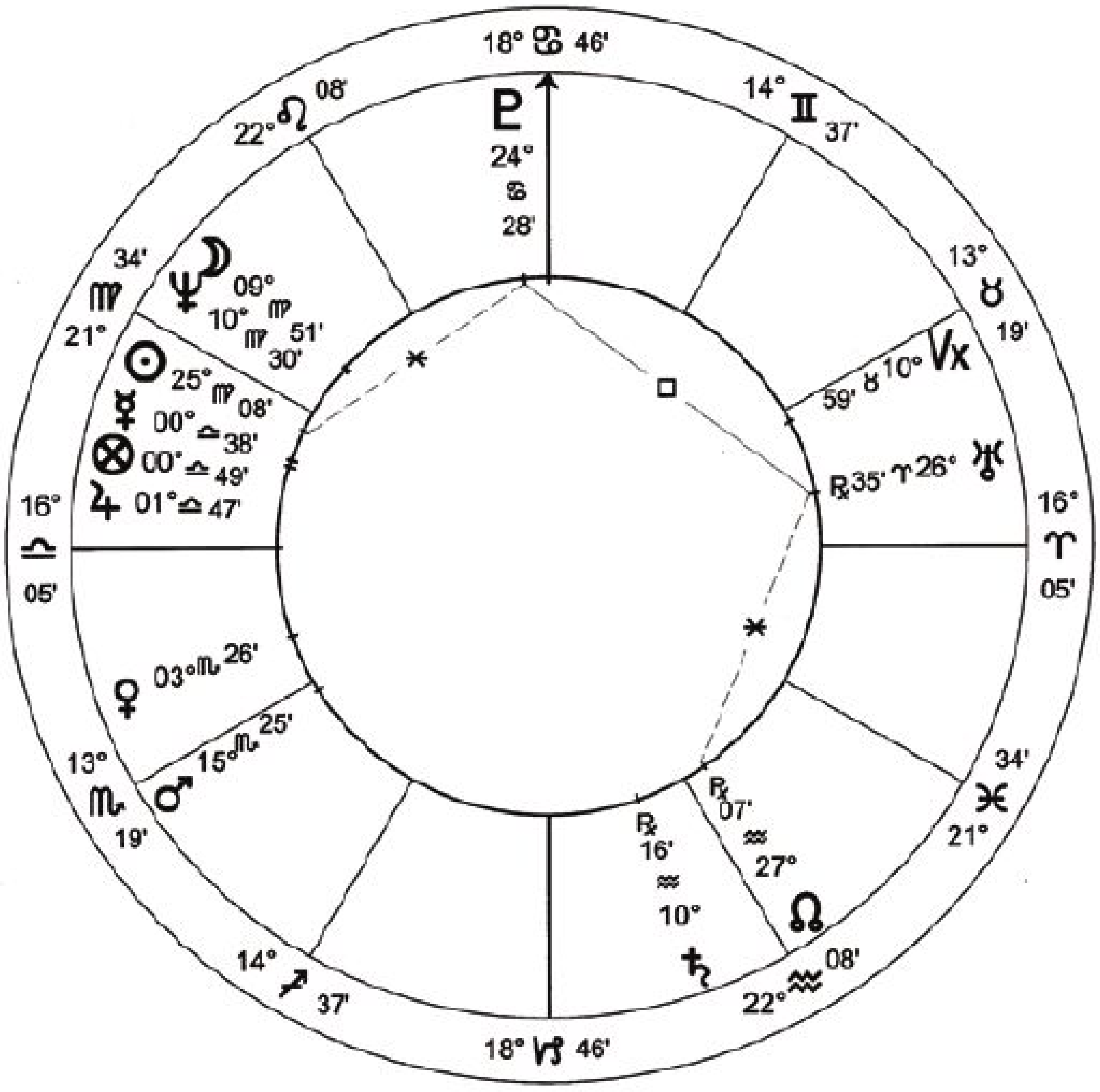


Figure 1: **Robert Blake**
8:30 AM EDT, 18th September 1933
Nutley, New Jersey: 40N49, 74W10

to have destroyed him. When he tried to return to show business he had difficulty getting work. Eventually, in the 80s and 90s, he sort of got back into show business. In all he appeared in 133 films as an actor

Blake's ♎ Ascendant gives him a strong, somewhat eccentric, personality, making him someone who needs social contacts. His ruler, ♀, in the 1st house in ♏ will have given him strong desires and emotions, and made him somewhat jealous and secretive. ♀ is □ ♄ in ♒, an aspect that relates to separation, unhappiness and inhibition, a lack of real affection. ♀ has no close aspects, which suggests the dictates of his heart are suppressed and there is an absence of warm feelings and cooperation.

His 12th house ☉ in ♍ confirms this indication of a secretive nature; in the 12th the ☉ produces restrictions in the life that are caused by inner inhibitions, indicating that Blake is his own worst enemy. ☉ ⚹ ♇ gives power and endurance. ☉ ⚻ the 7th house ♅ shows the need to develop more consideration and to learn to cooperate with others.

The ☽ rules his MC from the 11th house, where it is ☌ ♆ in ♍. With the ☽ applying to △ ♂ in ♏ in the 2nd house, he had a good income from his profession (MC-ruler ☌ ♆ = entertainment) but the ☽'s involvement with ♆, besides giving him artistic talent, points to his dependence of drugs and alcohol. ♆ in 11th with the ☽ also shows unreliable friends and involves him with deceptive women.

♇ is the highest elevated planet in the chart, ☌ MC, it gives him a strong drive to succeed and makes him capable of carrying out his own ideas.

☿, ruling the 12th house from the 12th but not in its own sign, can bring him difficulties through a negative attitude. It is not well suited for matrimony.

BONNIE LEE BAKLEY, was 22+ years younger. She was the eldest of four children, her father Edward J. Bakley was a tree surgeon. Bonnie had moved around a lot and led a risky life. She had gone by several aliases, been married many times—nine times by some accounts. She made a living running lonely-heart schemes, sending provocative pictures of herself in the nude to men, with the promise to visit them if they sent her money. On receiving the money, she would never show. She had a criminal record with a conviction for using a false identification, and had several passports and social security numbers under different names. She pursued celebrities—her ambition was to marry a movie star—had four children and her estate included three houses.

Her ♑ Ascendant, with its ruler in the 10th house, shows a determined, self-directed character, someone physically active with the ability to command, with curiousity about the thoughts and reactions of others. Her ☽ in ♊ with the ☋ (and ☌ ☿) at the cusp of the 5th house (Placidus) indicates problems in self-expression and, with the ☽ ruling the Descendant, fated associations. ♄, the most elevated planet, is □ ♇, ♃ and the Vertex, all in the 7th houses, as is ♅, indicating that she will want to exploit others for her own ends, and that she will have problems with the law (♃ ☌ ♇ □ ♄, with ♃ ☌ Vertex). ⯓ ☌ ♇ in the 7th gives a desire for power over others, strong powers of attraction, and a desire for sensual pleasure. ♃ ☌ Vertex: she gains the favor and attention she wants from the opposite sex.

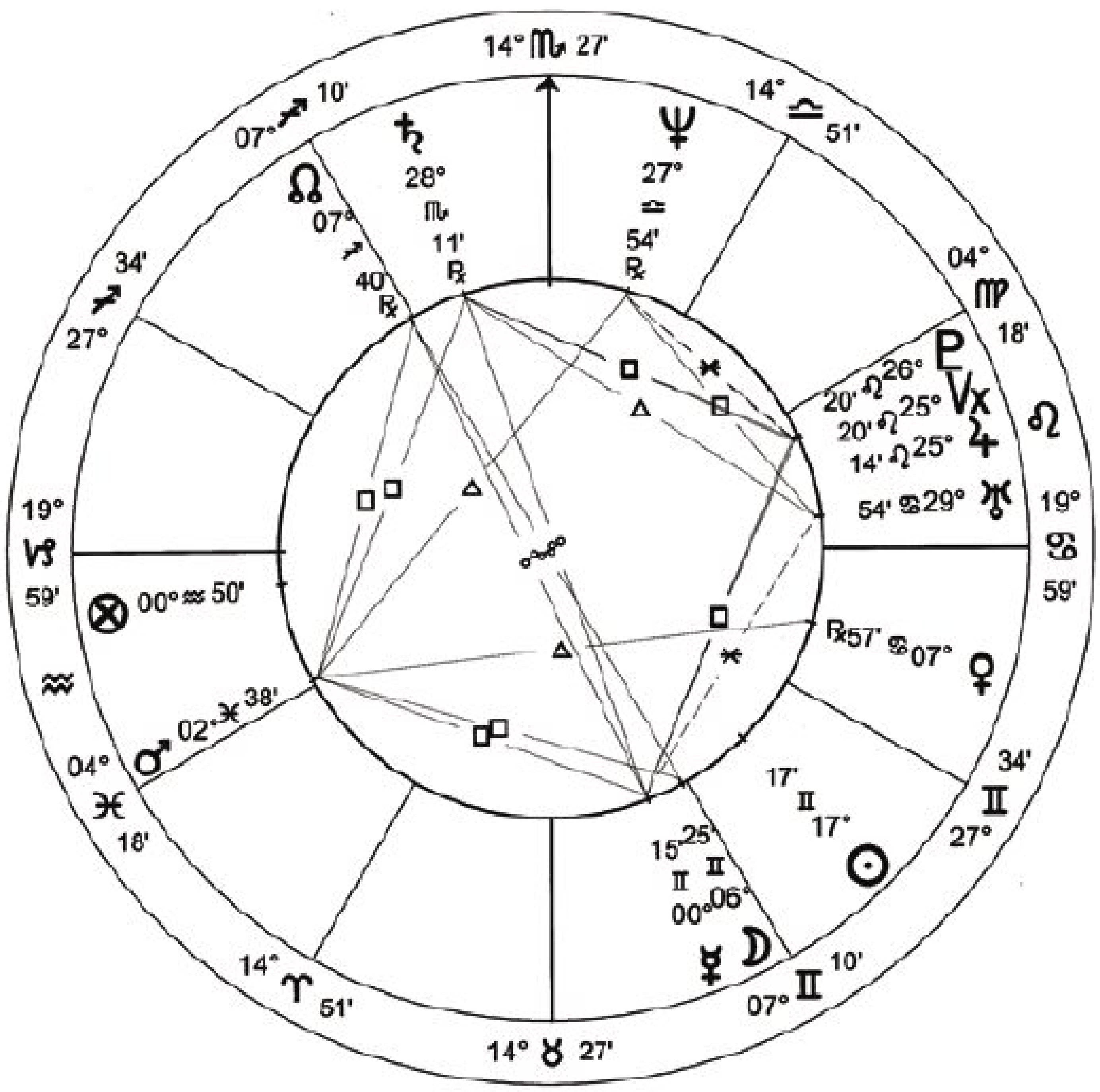


Figure 2: **Bonnie Lee Bakley**
10:40 PM EDT, 7th June 1956
Morristown, New Jersey: 40N48, 74W29

The disassociate Grand Cross, ☿ ☍ ♄ squaring ♂ ☍ ♇ and ♃, involves mutable and fixed signs and the 2nd, 5th, 7th and 10th houses. It must be associated with her marriages to an unknown number of men, her several children, and her lonely-heart schemes for obtaining money from gullible men.

The unaspected ☉ in ♊, ruling most of the 7th from the 5th, can indicate selfishness, it seems to relate to her belief in the importance of marriage, even multiple marriages. Her retrograde ♀ at the ☉/♅ midpoint caused her to suddenly fall in and out of love.

There are many tight connections between the two charts. Most if not all of them revolved around the two vertices.

Both were born with a retrograde ♄ □ the Vertex.

Both have ♂ □ ♄ and opposing the VX.

Bonnie's ☽/♅ midpoint is 3°13' ♋; Blake's ☽/♅ midpoint is 3° 09' ♋.

The ☽ and ♅ in combination create emotional tension. The midpoint of their two Vertices is 3° 08’ ♋. Blake’s Vertex squares his ♄, opposes his ♂ and trines his ☽ ☌ ♆. Bonnie’s Vertex is exactly ☌ ♃ (with ♇) and □ ♄. The emotional tension this pair would experience when together will have prompted Bonnie to become sarcastic and say cutting things (☿ □ ♂ aspecting the ♄ □ Vx-♃-♇), in turn it will have caused Blake to become angry (☿ ∠ ♂). As a couple, these two people were extremely dangerous to each other.

And Bonnie’s Ascendant is Blake’s IC—she would be the end of him.

THEY MET in September 1998 in a now-defunct jazz club in Burbank, a section of Los Angeles; they were immediately attracted to each other and quickly began a casual affair. Bonnie’s progressed chart had ☽ ☍ ♀ □ Vx; she was feeling intensely emotional, wanting instant gratification of her amorous feelings. She became pregnant twelve months later (progressed ♀ ☌ IC, ♂ ☌ Asc). They married on 19th November 2000.

☽ = ♆/ASC, there was some confusion about who the child’s father was. Blake hired investigators to look into Bonnie’s background; she continued with her lonely-heart schemes. The child, a girl named Rose, was born on 2nd June 2000, the day of a new ☽ at 12° 15’ ♊ opposed by ♇ at 11° 31’ ♐; DNA tests proved Blake was its father. Bonnie and Rose lived in a bungalow on Blake’s property but Bonnie and Blake led separate lives, they often argued and was much tension as to who should care for Rose.

On 4th May 2001 Blake took Bonnie for dinner at Vitello’s restaurant on Tujunga Avenue in Studio City. After dinner which Blake paid for with a credit card they left the restaurant at 9:30 PM. According to his testimony, they walked to the car which was parked behind a dumpster near a burned-out streetlight. He left her sitting in the car and returned to the restaurant to pick up his gun. When he returned to the car at 9:35 PM he discovered that Bonnie had been shot in the back of the head and in the upper body. Bonnie died a slow death. She was not declared dead until 10:45 PM at St Joseph’s hospital in Burbank.

Blake was arrested for Bonnie’s murder on 18th April 2002 at his sister’s home in Hidden Valley, California at 6 PM. His handyman and bodyguard Earle Caldwell was arrested the same day in Burbank.

Blake is now free on bail. He posted a $1.5-million bail at 5:13 PM PST on 14th March 2003 in Los Angeles. He also posted a $1-million bail for Caldwell.

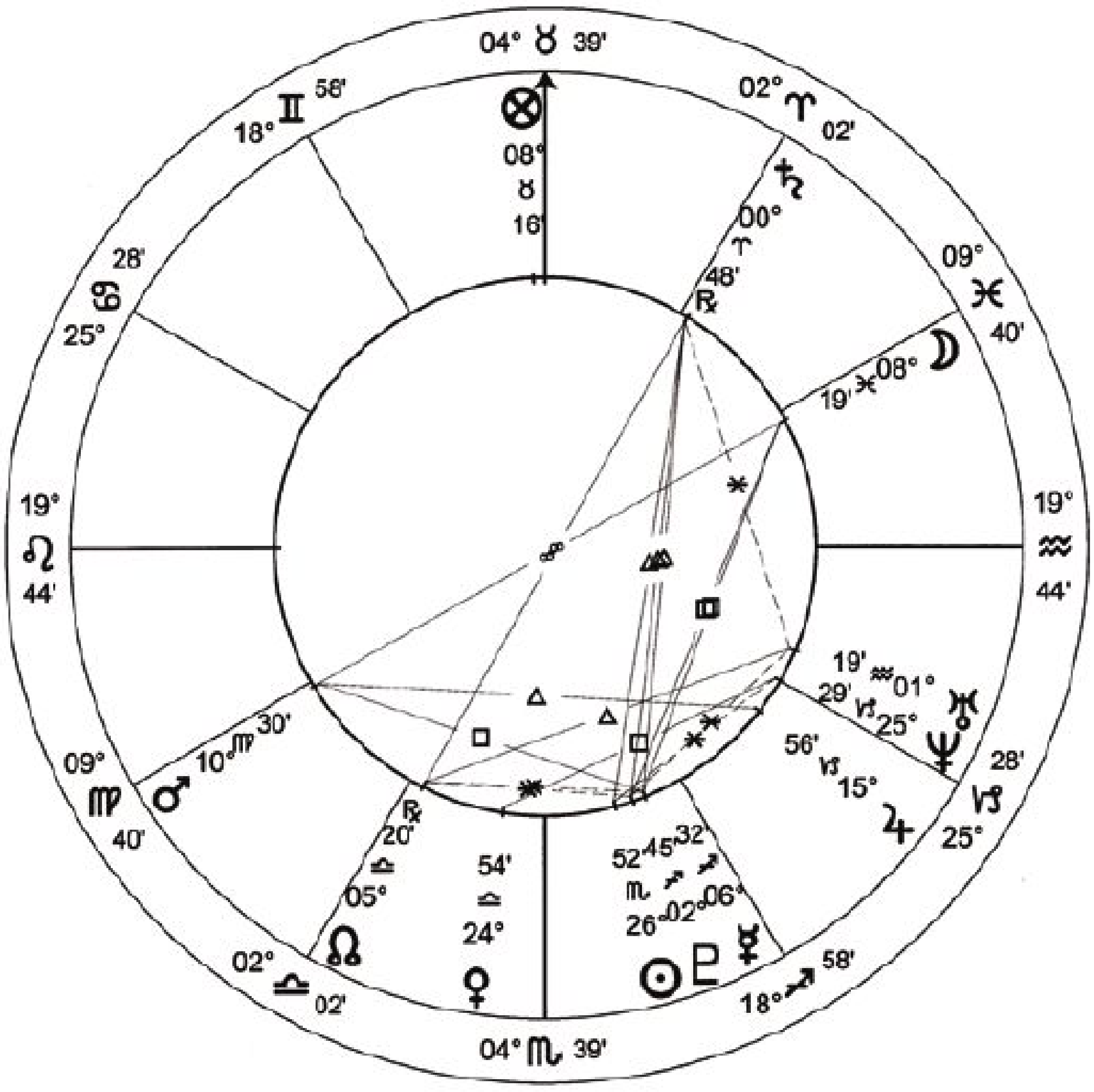
A trial date remains undetermined. It was supposed to be in September 2003. Blake is now looking for a new lawyer.

◆

Is this relationship likely to survive?

Ruth Baker ***DTAstrol, QHP, CMA***

THIS QUESTION was put to me by a student concerning her romantic relationship with her tutor. I felt it was a tricky one, because the querent was having some doubts about it and obviously wanting me to give an affirmative answer.



Is this relationship likely to survive?
10:12 pm GMT, 18th November 1996: 51N48, 1E09
☽ day, ♃ hour. ☽ from □ ☿ to ☍ ♂

I was pleased to find the planetary hour ruler, ♃, agreeing with the ascending sign of ♌ by ruling its night triplicity. Hour agreement implies permission to proceed and I hoped that this would lead me to a sound judgment.

The querent is signified by the ascendant ruler, the ☉. Its angular position in the end-of-matter 4th house in the fixed sign of ♏, shows her commitment to the relationship. However, the ☉ is peregrine and very weak, reflecting her misgivings.

Her co-significator, the ☽, badly positioned in the 8th house, is also weak and peregrine. Lilly says that the 8th house can show fear and anguish of mind (CA p, 54), and indeed the querent did appear to be very upset—I thought that maybe she feared that all was not going well.

The man concerned, who is some years older than the querent, is aptly signified by the 7th house ruler, ♄. ♄ is in an even worse state than the other significators, being retrograde, peregrine and in its fall. Its retrograde position close to the cusp of the 9th house of study and education seems to show that the tutor might well prefer to get the relationship back on to a teacher/pupil status, especially as there is no mutual or mixed reception between the ☉ and ♄ or between the ☽ and ♄.

Essential Dignities

	Sign	*Exalt*	*Trip*	*Term*	*Face*	
☉	♂	-	♂	☿	♀	Peregrine
☽	♃	♀	♂	♃	♄	Peregrine
☿	♃	-	♃	♃	☿	Detriment
♀	♀	♄	☿	♂	♃	
♂	☿	☿	☽	♀	♀	Peregrine
♃	♄	♂	☽	♃	♂	Fall
♄	♂	☉	♃	♃	♂	Peregrine, Fall
⊗	♀	☽	☽	☿	☿	

The ☽ last separated from a square aspect with a detrimented ☿, ruler of the 11th house, which made me think that there may have already been some awkwardness between them that had occasioned the question. The ☽ then applies to an opposition aspect with a weak and peregrine ♂, significator of contention and ruler of the end-of-matter 4th house. The querent's significator, the ☉, is within orb of a trine to ♄, but must change signs in order to perfect the aspect. Although this shows approaching contact, the weakness of the planets concerned and the lack of mutual reception between them does not bode well for an enduring relationship. Indeed, the ☉ nearing the end of its sign seemed to show that the relationship was due to move into a new phase. Night ⊗ is strong in the querent's 10th house of career, showing that is where her best interests lie. The man's career house is the turned 10th (radical 4th) ruled by ♂. With the querent's significator occupying this house, I thought the affair would get back to a student/teacher level before long. I also noticed that the ☽ was in the exaltation of ♀ positioned in the *Via Combusta*, the 'fiery way' and wondered whether the querent was really in love with love.

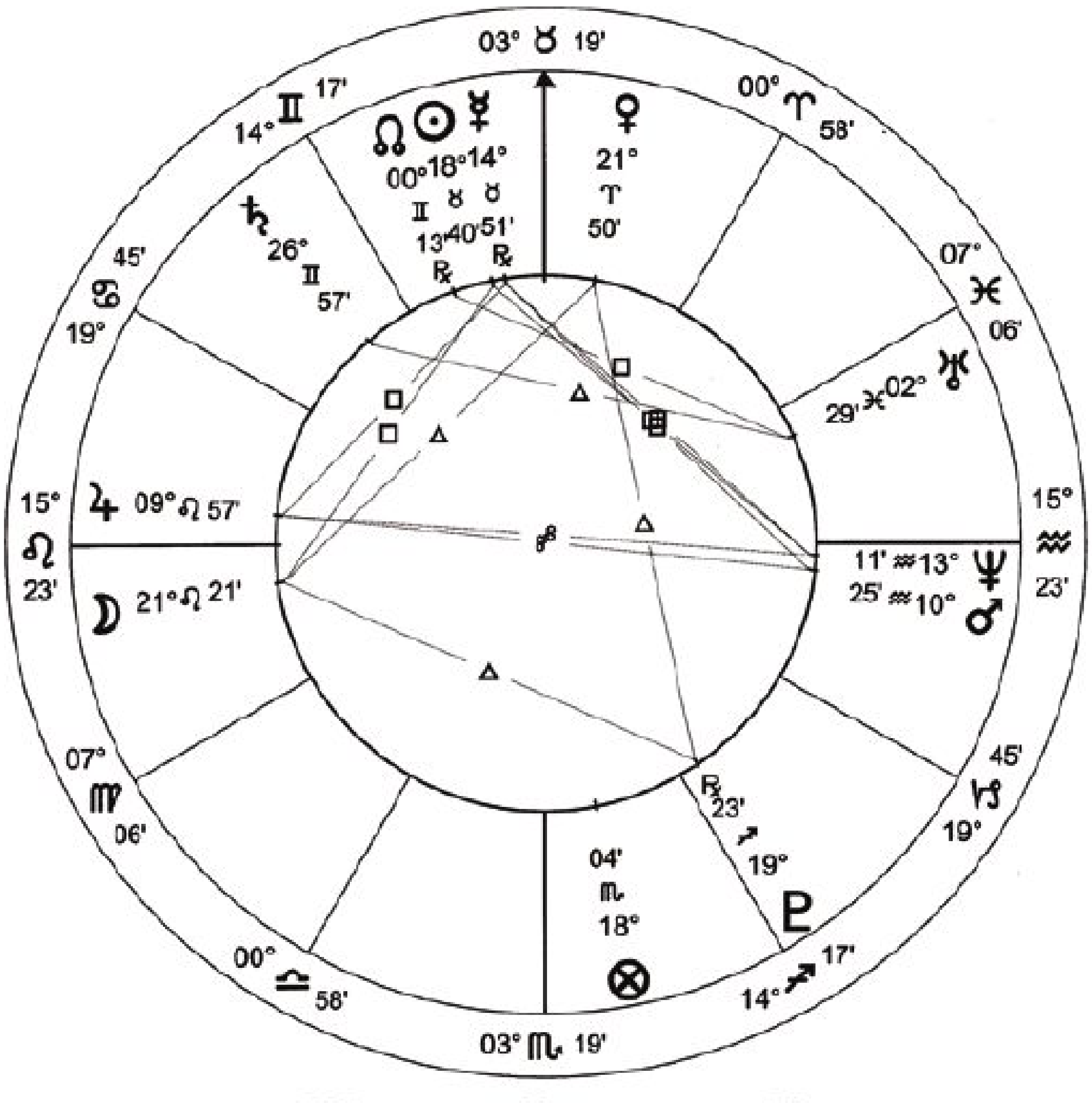
The querent was not at all happy with my judgment and told me so. However, at their very next meeting the tutor told her that he would like to get the relationship back onto a professional footing.

Was my Offer Accepted?

ELAINE KRENGEL

I HAD SEEN a house I liked and made an offer for it the day before. The sellers had countered at a higher price. So the offer in question is a counter offer to theirs, at a compromised price.

I am represented by the Ascendant-ruler, ☉, and by the ☽. The sellers are represented by 7th ruler ♄. The 3rd house ruler, ♀, represents my next door neighbor. She is also the listing agent of my own home and she presented my offer to sellers for me.



Was my offer accepted?
12:07 PM CDT, 9th May 2003: 44N45, 92W46

The ☽'s previous aspects (☌ ♃, ☍ ♂, □ ☿, □ ☉) attest to difficulty associated with the earlier offers. At present the ☽ separates from the ☉, applies to △ ♀, then ⚹ ♄. This is a near perfect example of translation of light, bringing potential buyer and sellers together. "As good as done", I said to myself.

Then I wondered, why is it only as good as done? My neighbor had taken my offer to sellers at 10:30 AM. Surely she'd already left them and gone on to another appointment she'd mentioned. Not long after the question sellers called and told me they accepted my offer but my neighbor had apparently taken one of the required documents with her.

They had another and if I would come and sign it the agreement would be final. She said they would be home around 5:00 PM. So I arrived there a little later and signed the document. The number of degrees to perfection of ☽'s sextile with ♄ corresponds closely with the hours of elapsed time between question and when the thing was finally done.

Essential Dignities

	Sign	*Exalt*	*Trip*	*Term*	*Face*	
☉	♀	☽	♀	♃	☽	
☽	☉	-	☉	♃	♂	
☿	♀	☽	♀	☿	☽	
♀	♂	☉	☉	♂	♀	detriment
♂	♄	-	♄	☿	☿	peregrine
♃	☉	-	☉	☿	♄	peregrine
♄	☿	☊	♄	♂	☉	
⊗	♂	-	♂	♀	☉	

☽ from □ ☉ to △ ♀, then to ⁎ ♄

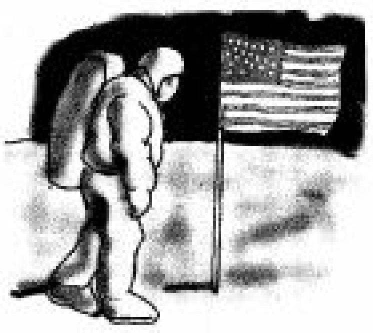
♂ hour, ♀ day. *Hour ruler of same nature as Ascendant ruler.*

There are a few items for students, both young and old, to note about this chart. I don't think translations of light have to be perfect to work, but a nearly perfect one is worth looking at. This one's aspects are favorable; and in addition, the ☉ is in mutual reception by sign and exaltation with both the ☽ and ♀ while dispositing ♄ in another of his dignities. The ☉ is clearly is in the driver's seat as he sends the ☽ off to get the business done, she and ♀ willingly comply and ♄ acts as bidden. The ☉ gets what he wants. The ☽ is so truthful: the thing really is almost done, but not quite—she tells it just like it is. And what happens when ☿ is Rx can hardly be exaggerated. The offerings back and forth are about price (☿ in 10th house), documents go missing and others have to be signed repeatedly. I didn't happen to think about his direction when deciding to make an offer on this house. I am aware agreements made when ☿ is Rx don't stand up; but, in answering this question I thought he'd probably already used up all his tricks. Not so.

As it turned out I was the one who changed my mind and wanted to back out of the agreement. Fortunately for me, there was a contingency in my offer I was able to invoke. That was on May 20th, the same day ☿ stationed direct. I don't know that it's a hard and fast rule, but the house where the ☽ is located is the one supposed to undergo change. So she tells in advance it's me who changes. Sellers were unhappy and at first refused to return my earnest money. But they came around as well and my money was returned by mail three days later. ☿ rules the house in which their planet is located, as well as my 2nd (money).

◆

The Uranus Menace[1]



PRIER WINTLE

WHEN THE image of a new and previously totally unsuspected planet floated into the field of view of amateur astronomer William Herschel's seven-foot high home-made reflecting telescope, with 12” mirror, on the night of 13th March 1781, neither he nor any of those to whom he imparted the news had any true inkling of just what it was that had suddenly and fatefully decided to show itself to the world—perhaps once again after many thousand of years. But Uranus, or *Georgium Sidus*, or even "Herschel", as the new planet was frequently called for nearly a century after its discovery or rediscovery, in honor of its discoverer (see this name used in old copies of *Raphael's Ephemeris*), had actually been impressing his influence on the 18th Century world for forty or more years before that epoch-making March night. An Industrial Revolution had been steadily changing the face of Britain, and the whole traditional way of life of its inhabitants, for all that time, besides spreading out into Continental Europe as well, to do the same there. And in 1789, eight years after the discovery, the French Revolution, the most shattering revolution in recorded history, was to break out and begin a process of fundamental change in the way that all the nations of the Western World were governed and organized, a change process which is still going on and spreading all over the globe. Uranus is the planet that brings about external, objective and measurable change upon everything we consciously see and know and experience in the world about us. And of course even Herschel himself had been stimulated to build his telescope, with a mirror almost unimaginably huge for those times, through his influence.

What sort of world do we live in now, and how does it differ from the world of 1740 or 1750—in what *fundamental way* does it differ'?

Before the mid-18th Century change process began people expected their life patterns and the things they saw about them to stay as they always had been in their own and their parents' and grandparents' days. Practically nothing had fundamentally changed since Roman Times, or Babylonian or Egyptian times either for that matter. Ships had bigger sails and had been able to sail to America, but the idea of sails had already been known to the Egyptians and Phoenician ships had actually been to Brazil. Tablets in Phoenician script have been found there. An

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[1] Received January 2002

Egyptian ship had rounded the Cape of Good Hope. There had been a dip after the Western Roman Empire collapsed in 410 AD and the years from 500 to 1000 AD were a Dark Age in European history (less so in Moslem lands), but the way that people thought and tried to do things remained essentially unchanged. Julius Caesar could have visited the Europe of Renaissance times in the 14th Century AD and got along in it quite well. The monks and priests in the churches and monasteries even still spoke Latin. But what would he make of today's world?

The constant that we expect now is change.

Cars are issued in new models each year, and so are fridges and radios and T.V. sets and computers. There is a continuous race to produce ever newer and more deadly military weapons. It is less than a hundred years since the Wright Brothers achieved their first heavier-than-air flight yet by 1969 men had already been able to walk on the Moon. Orbiting space stations are being planned and constructed and Ion-propelled flights to other Solar Systems will likely be on their way within the next ten to fifteen years. Trains still run, and everyone is expected to possess a fast car, but the standard mode of travel over long distances all over the globe is now by air. Passenger ships exist only for expensive luxury pleasure jaunts.

Government and Commercial offices no longer keep records carefully written down by clerks. Everything is swiftly button-pressed into computer memory banks by ladies between 20 and 45 years of age who no longer stay at home to look after children. In the `advanced' countries there are fewer and fewer of them, anyway. Families get smaller and smaller.

But the rate of change gets faster and faster. We are only two years into the new century yet already things that would have been unthinkable in the final half decade of the last one are taking over. Computers are getting smaller and smaller and people communicate instantly all over the world through E-mail by means of them. Static phones are becoming a thing of the past as everyone acquires a cell phone and can be contacted wherever he or she is at any time of the day or night. Solitariness and privacy are a vanishing luxury. Nowadays your handset lets you know who is calling you before you answer your phone, and if you pay just a little bit more you can even see the caller or the person you have called as you speak to them.

It has caused a fundamentally different attitude to develop towards age and older people. In older times, parents and old people generally were regarded and treated with respect. Their life experience in relationships and at work was regarded as a natural teaching experience, imparting a degree of wisdom. And there were not so many of them around as now, for life expectancy was shorter, so younger people looked up to them. But anyone over fifty nowadays is usually more or

less of a has-been. School children over the age of ten or eleven can operate computers with ease but the over-fifties mostly can't, or only do so with difficulty. They don't belong to the computer generation. The world of ♅ is a world for younger people—people new on the scene who are able to change and adapt easily. If you are old, you hope you have an adequate pension (not everyone has), and you try to fill up your time with a hobby or a part-time, help-out job. Essentially, you have dropped out of the life of the 'real' world, the world of perpetual change.

Sadly, and probably ominously, the accelerating pace of change is almost universally regarded as a good thing. The latest catalogues are eagerly scanned and the newest laptop computers, press-button microwave stoves and slope-front cars are greeted with oohs and aahs of wonder and delight. The people of former centuries who had none of these things are supposed to have been stupid. "They hadn't learnt their way about", people say of them. Only their art works, paintings and sculptures, are collected by connoisseurs and advertised in galleries at enormous prices. For one overriding test of everything, new or old, is still the price it will fetch.

But the real price of it all is globalism. World unification, based on the new rapid means of travel and communication, is generally regarded and taught as being inevitable. Yet the peoples of the world are still really as diverse as they always have been. They are no longer taught their separate national histories at school, as they used to be, but they still feel instinctively different, especially where their languages and races differ. What it is actually coming to amount to is a form of tyranny, enforced by incessant propaganda, the merging of separate national currencies, (as recently in Europe with the Euro), and negative job and promotion discrimination (or even occasionally police or legal action) against those who actively wish to protest and resist. Global unity may of course arguably be an admirable ideal but rapid coercion as at present may well lead to an eruption of genocidal wars and `ethnic cleansing', as recently in Yugoslavia. Ideally, it should be a matter of *gradual* evolution and consent, as in past ages.

What we may well be seeing is technological advance accompanied by social retrogression. As people become conditioned to think and feel that perpetual change is good and right—the way things always ought to be—a simmering undercurrent of tension also characterizes our whole modern world. There has to be a new model of everything, whether it is a stove or a car or a style of clothing, every year. And a small modification or improvement in efficiency isn't enough. Every few years the entire design must be revolutionized. Within an almost unbelievably short time an older thing has become an ancient thing. A twenty-years-old car is a vintage-car, a collector's item that no normal person wants to drive. On the continent of Europe cars over ten years old are banned from the roads. One has to have a special vintage-car permit to be able to continue to drive one.

We see it going on and on everywhere around us and we also sense the tension as well, though it isn't quite so easy to understand that or find a word to describe it which really goes to its root and explains it. Just why do Uranian changes always tend to produce tension—everywhere producing results that are ultimately negative? Why doesn't improved communication by means of road, rail and radio operate to bring people closer together and improve understanding, instead of setting people at each other's throats all over the globe? It didn't always seem to be tending that way. When telephone communication was first established between Britain and America in the 1880s the US President and Queen Victoria of Britain exchanged amicable greetings, but now it seems more likely to be used by heads of governments to link up in readiness for war. The ordinary man or woman takes a deep breath before incurring the expense of a transatlantic call and it is chiefly the big banks that daily and hourly use the facility to discuss and finalize their currency manipulations. Similarly, roads are everywhere crowded with speeding and over speeding cars, poisoning the atmosphere with lethal carbon monoxide fumes from their exhausts. In big cities like Tokyo, the police at major intersections actually have to wear gas masks. And the road-toll of injuries and deaths in daily accidents is something we have all come to take for granted, at least till it happens to us or to someone dear to us. Undoubtedly the worst offenders of all, however, are Radio and T.V., especially T.V. They are used by the powers-that-be to keep their populaces in a hypnotic trance while they tax them and work out the best tissue of lies and false promises to advertise in order to win the next election.

"But Uranus himself can't be blamed for all that", you'll be saying. "It is just how people have misused the benefits he has brought us. He himself is a benefic, or at least an intellectual neutral like Mercury".

Really?

Then why has it all gone the way it has?

The best way to answer that question is to look at his birth chart.

What is that?

The chart for the moment he was discovered, of course. That was when he burst upon this world, just as each one of us bursts upon the world when we are born, stretching and rupturing our mother's vagina, causing her excruciating agony that she lovingly forgets as soon as she can hold us in her arms. And if you're going to say that ♅ was existing long, long before he was discovered, and may very possibly have been known by earlier civilizations as well, again the same thing applies to ourselves. We existed in our mother's womb before we were born and very possibly we've all had previous incarnations too.

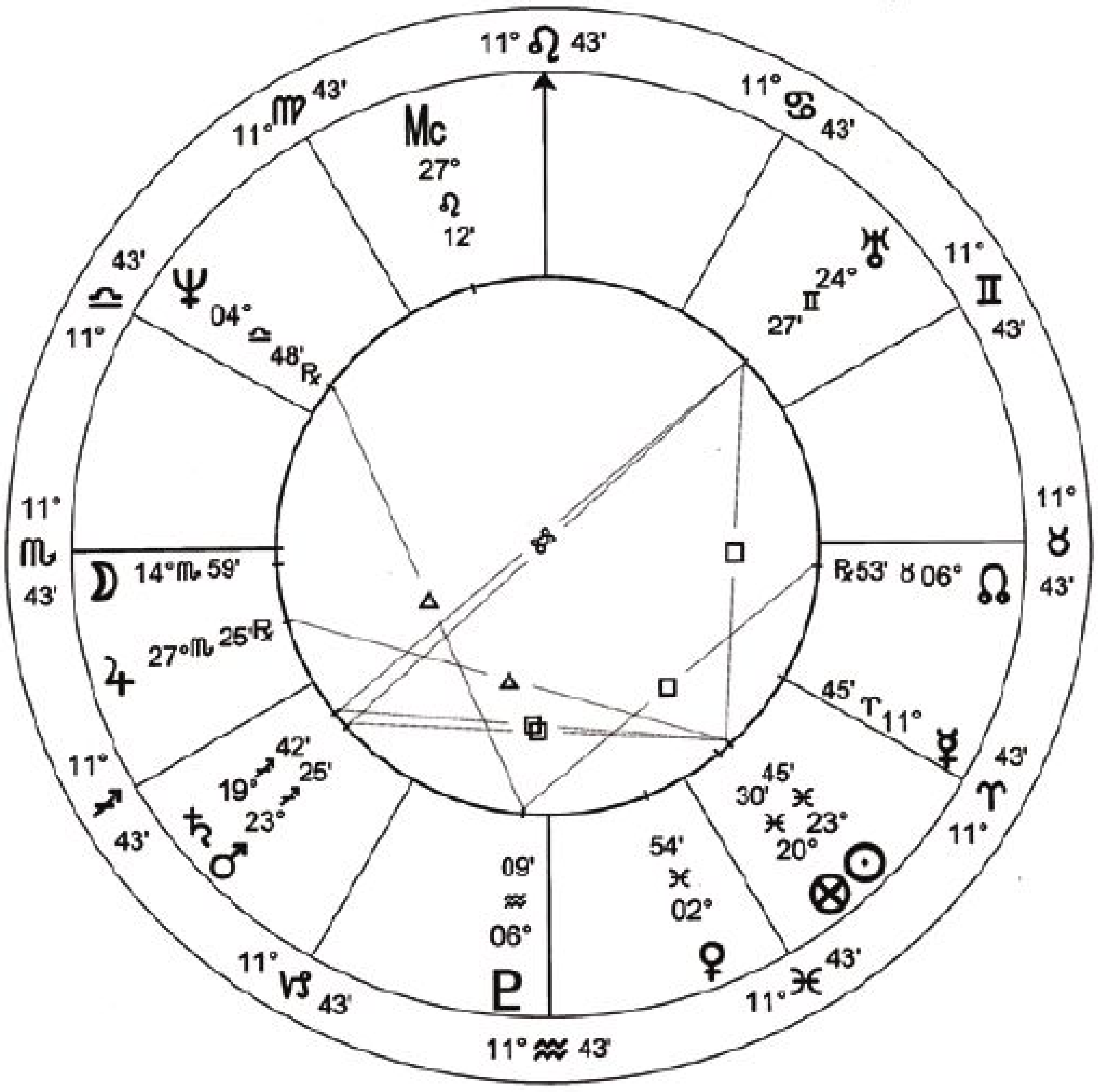

Figure 1:

♅ discovered

10:30 PM
LMT
(22:39:28 UT)
13th March
1781
Bath, England:
51N23, 2W22

WILLIAM HERSCHEL (he was only knighted much later in his life) first saw ♅ between ten and eleven on the night of 13th March 1781 in Bath, England, during a routine search he was making in order to catalogue all the stars in a particular area of the sky. The planet exhibited a definite diameter whereas the surrounding stars were simply points of light, and after an interval of only two hours, he was able to demonstrate that it was moving. At first, he thought that what he was seeing might be a comet, and he wasn't even sure that it was not in an orbit closer to the ☉ than the Earth. It was two or three months before he and other astronomers, (most of whom also happened to be clergymen) were able to establish that it definitely was a new planet moving in an orbit vastly more distant than that of ♄. At first, its distance from the ☉ was calculated as seventeen times that of the Earth. Today it is estimated to be more nearly twenty-one times further.[2]

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[2] All my information regarding Herschel himself and his discovery of Uranus

The chart itself is almost unbelievably bad.

The ☽ rises—in itself a good augury of sensitivity and responsiveness to people generally—but she is in the *Via Combusta* and has to all intents and purposes no aspects whatever. So, ♅ will affect people and relate to people everywhere but nothing warm or constructive will come of this. World developments generally, as depicted in the rest of the horoscope, will go ahead without any link with the feelings of people or concern for their emotional growth and welfare, even though the ☽'s placement shows they will be affected, seriously. Indeed, with her in the *Via Combusta*—she couldn't be worse placed—one can only expect a bitter and sorrowful outcome for all the world's people.

And what of ♅ himself?

Is it possible to conceive of a more ominous configuration? He opposes the ♂ ☌ ♄—the opposition to ♂ is only just over 1° from being exact—and squares the ☉ in ♓ within 1° of exactness. The ☉ himself is only 20’ from exactly □ ♂. Thus we have an earth-shaking, tight mutable T-square—the most unstable form of T-square possible, well known to appear again and again in the horoscopes of insane people—involving ♅ himself, the most destabilizing and upheaval-causing of all the planets.

The Houses involved are also eloquent in illustrating what we know only too well has happened. The ☉ is in the 5th House (Equal House system), where he is normally at home and strong. Although somewhat weak in ♓ he is at least idealistic and empathetic to the feelings of others there. But since he squares ♅ in ♊ in the 8th House the latter's ideas, however brilliant in themselves, acquire the potentiality to be deadly, and they will become so without any shadow of doubt when the ruthless and icy deadliness of ♂ and ♄, combined in the 2nd, operates on them with determination to explore every Sagittarian brainwave to make money out of them. New makes of cars, computers, jet airplanes and laser-cutting apparatus are wonderfully creative in themselves but as far as the people who construct and market them are concerned they are there solely to make profits. Even war weapons are exploited to make money, both by selling them to hundreds of eager buyers in peace time and on a colossal scale in wartime, since wars themselves are usually brought about (behind the scenes, of course) by people who want this,

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comes from the book *The Herschel Chronicle: the Life-story of William Herschel and his sister Caroline Herschel,* edited by his granddaughter Constance A. Lubbock, Cambridge, at the University Press, 1933, Chapters VI and VII, 1781 and 1781-1782, pages 78-112. I am indebted to our editor for supplying me with an ephemeris of all the planets for the whole of 1781. It should also be mentioned that the discovery chart, calculated for 10.30 pm on the day in question, is cited by Nicholas Campion in *The Book of World Horoscopes*, page 553 that or the other area of the globe brought under their thumb for oil or other raw materials. (Don't show this to the Rothschilds or John D. Rockefeller!)

So, it has all happened exactly as prefigured in that chart of 250 years ago.

Is there anything nice shown in it?

Well—yes. It is difficult to conceive of a chart in which absolutely everything could be totally, totally bad. Perhaps if there was one and something started or came into being just at the moment when it was exact, the world might end. And of course ♅ himself is not totally bad—only the effects of his ideas have largely turned out that way, perhaps exacerbated by his own impatience with anything non-scientific and intellectual.

Unfortunately, the good things in the chart don't really introduce much modification into what is so appallingly bad in it, and some of them may simply be describing the dedicated character of Herschel himself, the discoverer. ♀, exalted in ♓, is in the 4th House, only 5¾° from the IC, though the latter is in ♒. And she is only 3’ from exactly trining the ⊗ in ♋ in the 8th House.[3] ♀ is also in the 5th House's Sign though just out of orbs of being conjunct the E.H. 5th Cusp. Nevertheless what I think her position is illustrating is the moment of sheer joy, uncontaminated by money-making ambition, which researchers and inventors experience when a new idea dawns on them or a piece of research proves to have been on the right lines despite a whole series of difficulties and set backs. And the trine to ⊗ (the place in all charts most closely associated with fulfillment in life generally), from ♓ to ♋, shows that ♅ is inherently *not* totally divorced from the feeling side of life.[4] Essentially he is a pure scientist, an intellectual yes, but not either malevolent or materially self-interested. There may be many moments when he truly feels joy at the benefits his insights and new ways of doing everything could potentially bring to all mankind.

But unfortunately, the trine from ♀ is not the only aspect ⊗ receives. There is also a close square from ♆ in the 11th House, near the 12th Cusp. It is less than 2° from exactness and the same planet is a similar distance from ⚻ ♀. ♆ is in ♎ where some authorities say he is strong—perhaps even exalted—though since ♎ is an Air Sign and he is the most watery of all the planets there must be some doubt about that. In any case, what I think he is doing as he squares ⊗ in a Water Sign from his Air Sign is to shut off or shut down some of the pure emotional joy, almost as if he is correcting it. He will point to confusions and inconsistencies still unresolved. We all know he is the master planet of muddle, which normally—if we are prepared to trust and follow him—we can only overcome and transcend by means of Faith. But here in ♎ he is saying that even Faith won't manage it alone. We must wait awhile till we have evened and balanced everything up and can show by clear, unanswerable logic that everything is O.K. And of course, ♅ the intellectual falls for that.

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[3] I do not subscribe to the idea that ⊗ is calculated by ☽ + Asc - ☉ in a day chart and ☉ +Asc - ☽ in a night chart. Ptolemy taught that the ☽ + Asc - ☉ method is to be used all the time and I agree with him. The other method brings about a sudden jump in position at Sunrise and Sunset, and I have never found the night position meaningful in any chart I have examined.

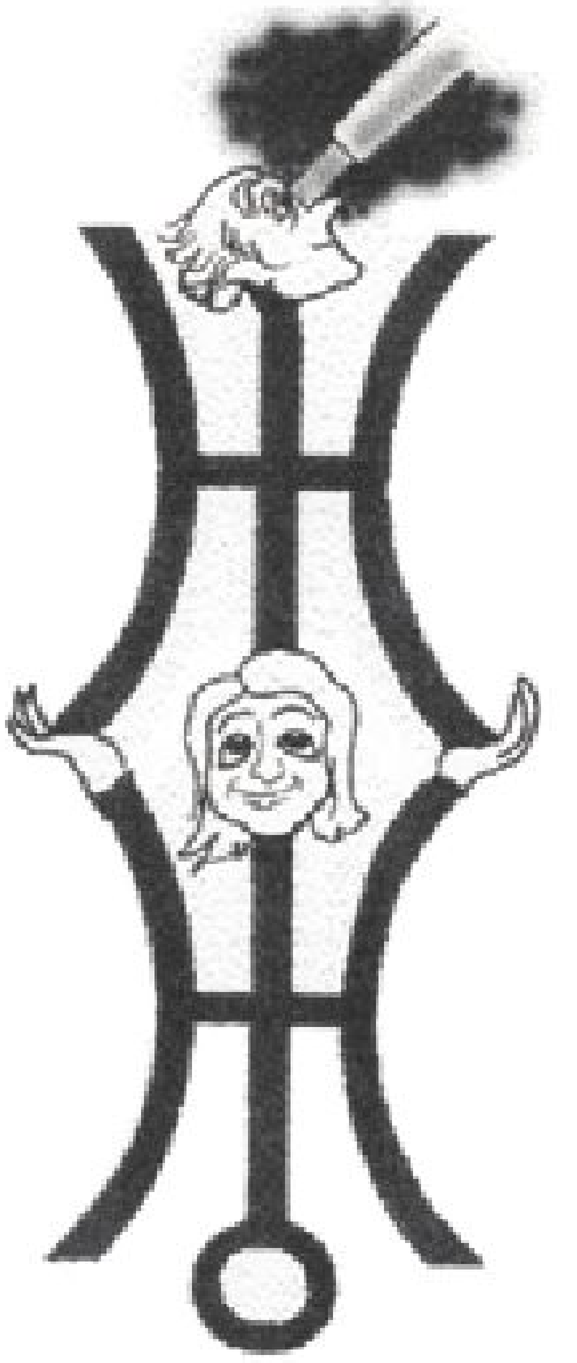
[4] The ☽ rising says the same thing, of course.

And there is something else which says much the same thing, though perhaps more constructively. ♆ is in close trine to ♇ in the 3rd House, close to Cusp 4, in ♒, ♅'s Sign. "We are dealing with very weighty matters here," both ♆ and ♇ insist. "It would be only too easy to blow up the whole globe. Let us take really fundamental things very slowly and gradually." And they have been proved right! Ever since Uranian science unlocked the secrets of the Plutonian atom in the 30s and 40s, we have been living in a world that could be blown up by atomic and hydrogen bombs at any moment of any and everyday. So, in that area at least ♆'s delaying tactics did work for 150 years.

HERSCHEL himself fits into the 5th House ♀ picture because he started life not as an astronomer but as a musician, like his father before him. Both were members of the royal Hanoverian military band, which his father actually directed. William was notably talented because he specialized in the violin but also played the clarinet and various keyboard instruments and was also able to organize and conduct concerts. At that time the British royal family still had very strong links with Hanover, whence George I had originally come, and William, born there on 15th November 1738, decided to go to Britain in the mid-1760s to escape the incessant wars with France which had devastated the state and reduced his family to destitution. He became the organizer of concerts at the fashionable spa town of Bath and also taught the violin, taking seven students each day. In this way, he was able to save enough money to help support his four brothers and his sister, as well as his parents, still in Hanover. At his suggestion, his sister Caroline and Alexander, one of his brothers, also later emigrated to Britain.

His main interest in life began to switch from music to astronomy in the 1770s and he began to long for some way to make it not merely a hobby (5th House) but a paying profession. He was already constructing telescopes with characteristic German efficiency, designing mirrors made of an alloy of copper and tin, which he had calculated and perfected, and also grinding and polishing them himself. But most astronomers in Britain at the time were clergymen, because very little money was invested nationally in astronomy itself and no other profession outside the church offered its practitioners as much free time to themselves besides a living wage. It was not until 1783, two years after he had discovered Uranus, that George III offered Herschel an emolument of £200 a year on condition that he would move to London and be available to show his telescopes to members of the royal family and point out interesting sidereal phenomena to them whenever so requested.

The sum offered was small but Herschel eagerly accepted it in order to be free of the onerous burden of violin teaching. He would make the extra money he needed to continue sending assistance to his family in Germany by constructing and selling telescopes. No one else in the world at that time could approach his skill at that occupation. Royalty in France, Germany and Spain ordered telescopes made by him. His overall energy and dedication can only be described as extraordinary. Apparently, he only needed three or four hours of sleep each night. Hitherto, he had taught violin all day, besides grinding telescope mirrors, and then spent 6 or 7 hours of the night observing the heavens. His sister Caroline (16th March 1750, in Hanover) would assist him, seated at the foot of the ladder which led to the telescope eyepiece, meticulously recording everything he described. He had the ♏ intensity and she the ♓ dedication and will for self-sacrifice. Together they made and fulfilled the promise of that exalted ♀ in the 5th House of the discovery chart.



When I commenced this article I had the birth dates of both Herschel and his sister Caroline but nothing more—no birth times and no astronomical/astrological data. Thus, I could do no more than comment on their Sun Signs. Now our editor has supplied me with noon charts for both their birthdays, which give a little more illumination.

In Herschel's chart, his ♏ ☉ is at the apex of a Yod figure (two quincunxes and a sextile) with ♃ in ♈and ♂ in ♊. Very possibly this may account for the energy and one pointed dedication of his character and make-up. ♀ is restrictively placed in ♑ and has an opposition to ♄, exact to within 1°, so apart from the almost slave-like dedication of his sister Caroline, women hardly figured in his life at all. Finally, at the age of 42, he married a widow and had one child, his son John, (also later on an astronomer), the following year, (9th March 1792 in Slough, England). The ♑ emphasis (♅, ♀ and ☽ all in the Sign) may also have had something to do with his longevity—he was 84 when he died on the 25th August 1822. It is also worthwhile noting ♅'s close aspects to the other two outer planets—☍ ♆ and ⚹ ♇. It was through perturbations of ♅'s orbit that both of these two were discovered, ♆ in 1846 and ♇ in 1930, so one can in effect say that Herschel had a finger in both those pies too.

Without a birth time and accurate house placements that is all I prefer to say about this chart, except to mention the placement of ⊗ in the 2nd House of jobs and finance. ⊗ falls in the 2nd House whatever the birth time on this day. In the noon chart, she forms part of a close fan of sextiles with the ☽ and ☿. If the birth time was earlier, she might be ⚹ ♀. (From portraits, I suspect a ♐ Ascendant, which would also be appropriate to Herschel as the explorer par excellence of the heavens). In either case, the placement probably points to his concern to make money to assist his family, as well as to advance the projects to which he dedicated his life, rather than for himself.

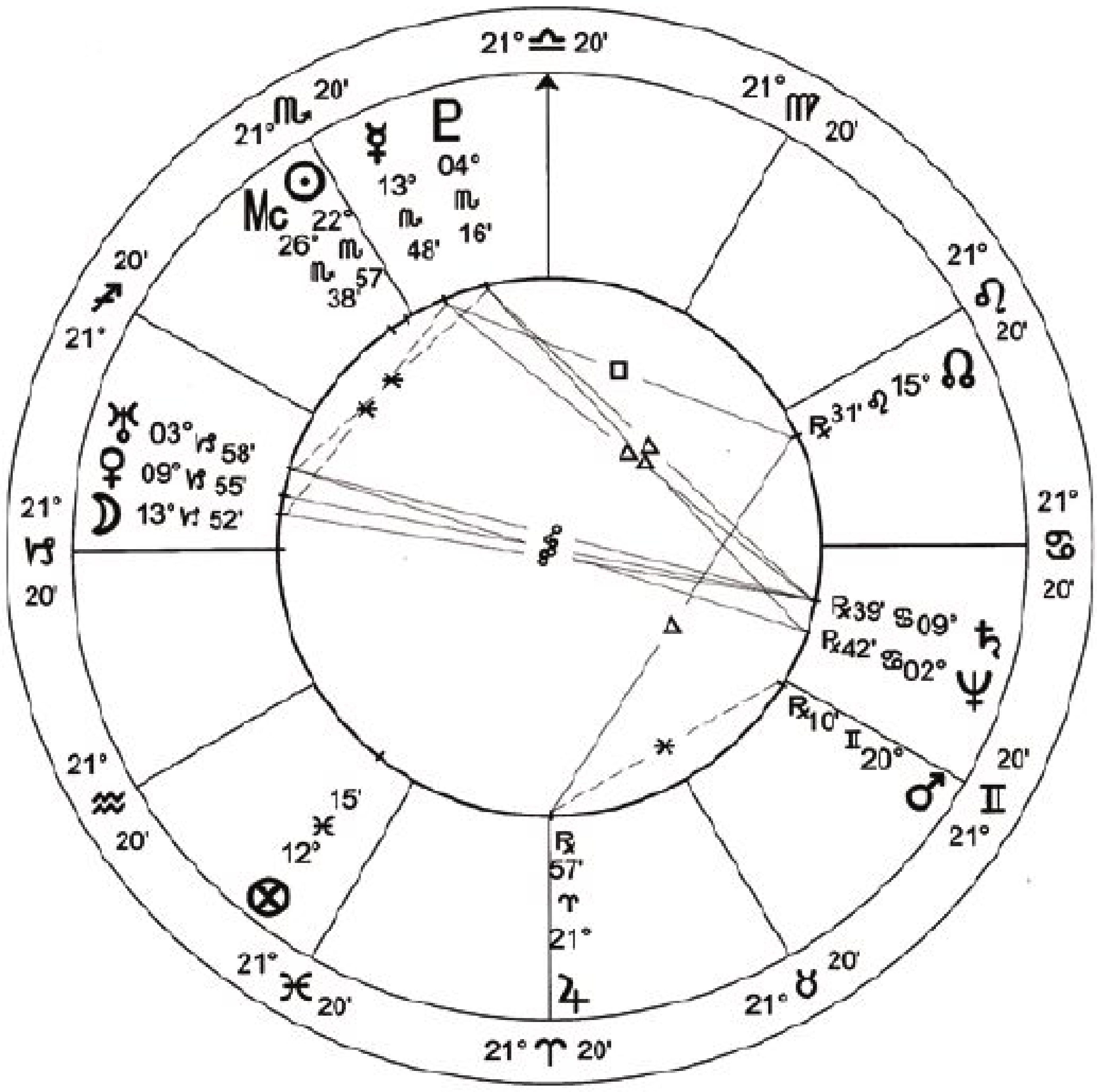


Figure 2

William Herschel

Noon chart
15 November
1738
Hanover
Germany:
52N24, 9E44

Caroline, his fanatically self-sacrificing co-worker, has ♄ ☌ ♇ and in exact square to ☿. ♀ is in detriment in ♈. She never married and could think of nothing but her duty to advance her brother's work. After his death, she returned to Hanover where she died at the age of 92.

Some notes on the symbol of ♅ may be of interest. A German astronomer wrote to Herschel in July 1783 proposing Uranus as the new planet's name and suggesting ⛢ as its symbol. Then the French astronomer De La Lande proposed ♅ as the symbol in a letter to Herschel dated 7th April 1784. He explained, *C'est un globe surmonté* *de la premiere lettre de votre nom; vous voila associe' malgré vous à toutes les divinites de l'antiquité*. (It is a globe surmounted by the first letter of your name thus you are associated in spite of yourself with all the divinities of antiquity). The ⛢ symbol is still used by some German and Dutch astrologers.

HOWEVER, interesting though that subject is, we are not primarily concerned with the character of the discoverer (or rediscoverer) of ♅ here, nor that of his sister and their interrelated fortunes. We are essentially researching the deleterious long-term effects of the discovery itself, which unarguably bear out the ominous indications of the discovery chart considered as a whole. I therefore proceed now to examine a series of Solar Returns of that birth chart, beginning with the one that is probably the most revealing and characteristic of them all.

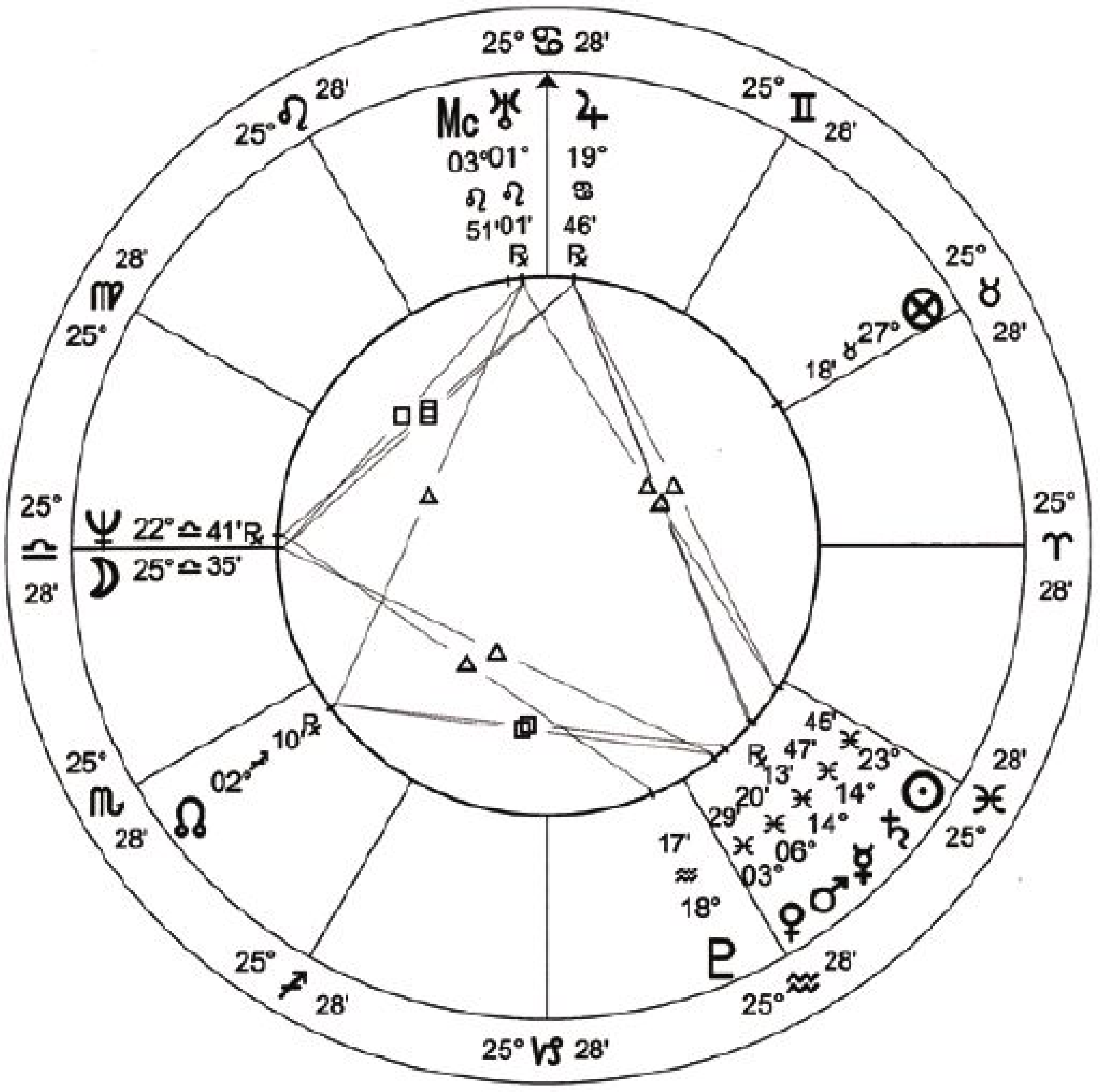


Figure 3:

♅ discovery 1789 Solar Return

8:57 PM LMT, 13th March 1789: 51N23, 2W22

In the year 1789 the French Revolution broke out, challenging and overturning the whole traditional concept of kingly and aristocratic government which till then had been almost universally accepted. The slogan it used to express its revolutionary, new approach was "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity." By these words, it justified the guillotining of the king and queen as well as over 20,000 members of the aristocracy, male and female.

The Solar Return for 1789, calculated for the birth place, Bath, England, amazingly shows the ☽ rising once again, as in the discovery chart, and once again in the *Via Combusta*, though here in the ♎ section of the

Via instead of that of ♏. The meaning, however, is basically the same—an event that will affect the lives of countless people, yet without any real consideration for either their feelings or their genuine welfare. In the Solar Return ♆ conjoins the ☽ and both are ⚻ ☉ at the end of the 5th House on Cusp 6. Thus, they profess to show an idealistic concern about the way in which everything is being run, though it is an idealism of which we should be very suspicious since it comes from the *Via Combusta*.

The main indication of change comes from ♅ himself, however. He is in the 10th House, within 3° from conjunction with the Midheaven and 4½° from a dissociate square to the rising ☽. He is in ♌, his Detriment. So in this instance a noble ♌ Midheaven augurs an end to nobility, and royalty, as the common people (the ☽) demand a *Via Combusta* ♎ equality and put the Red Hat on the chateaux of the aristocracy throughout the whole of France (i.e., set fire to them—*Combusta*).

The actual start of the revolution was a symbolic action—the storming of the Bastille, a fortress prison just outside Paris where political prisoners and other people the monarchy disliked were traditionally incarcerated. It was broken into and set on fire. The fact that ♆, ruler of ♓, the Sign associated with hospitals and prisons, is rising ☌ ☽ in the Solar Return chart and that both are in quincunx to the ♓ ☉ on 6th Cusp, is a striking astrological symbolic picture of just what happened. "Blow your Bastille—we're having a new order of things", it seems to say.

And unquestionably the revolution did blow limits away however regrettable the twenty and more years of war that immediately followed it undoubtedly were, to say nothing of the universal governmental instability that has followed, and which we still experience. The chart shows an extraordinary concentration of five planets, a satellitium all in ♓, all in the creative 5th House, all wanting to break free of past limits. They include ♀ ☌ ♂, possibly a harbinger of Women's Lib. for ♀ is exalted in ♓ whereas the masculine ♂ tends to be somewhat uncertain and confused there. And ♄ is exactly ☌ ☿ in 14° ♓, not a good Sign for ☿ himself but *the* indication par excellence of meticulous scientific research. The revolutionary leaders executed the Pope and outlawed Christianity, setting up in its place a statue of the Goddess of Reason who was to be the deity ruling the future. And so, largely, she has been ever since. There may be as many Born Again Christians as you like, but Science, materialistic Science, is the real religion we all follow and believe in in the present time. Even the B.A.Cs go to a materialistically trained doctor or dentist and buy and operate materialistic computers.

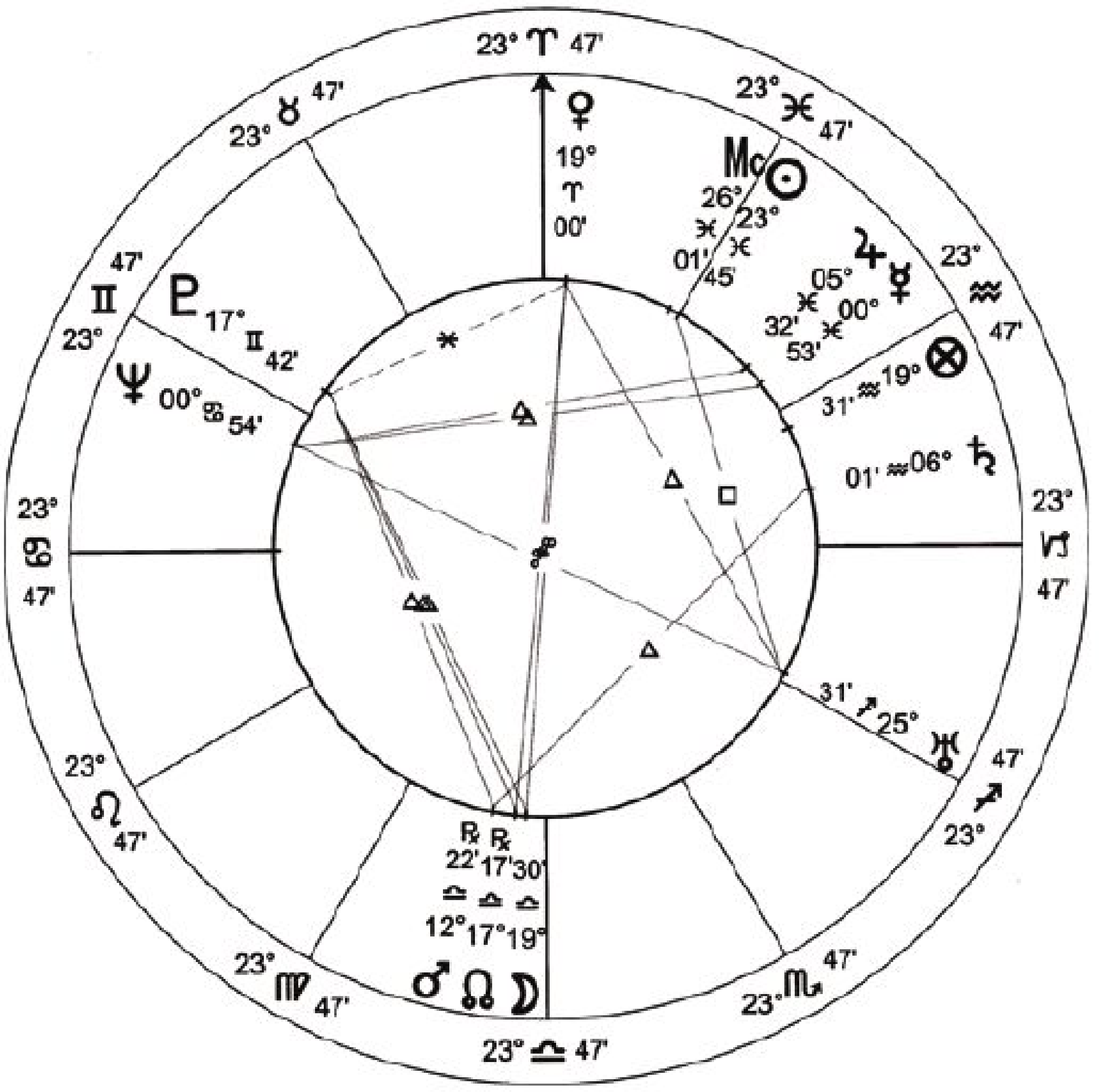


Figure 4:

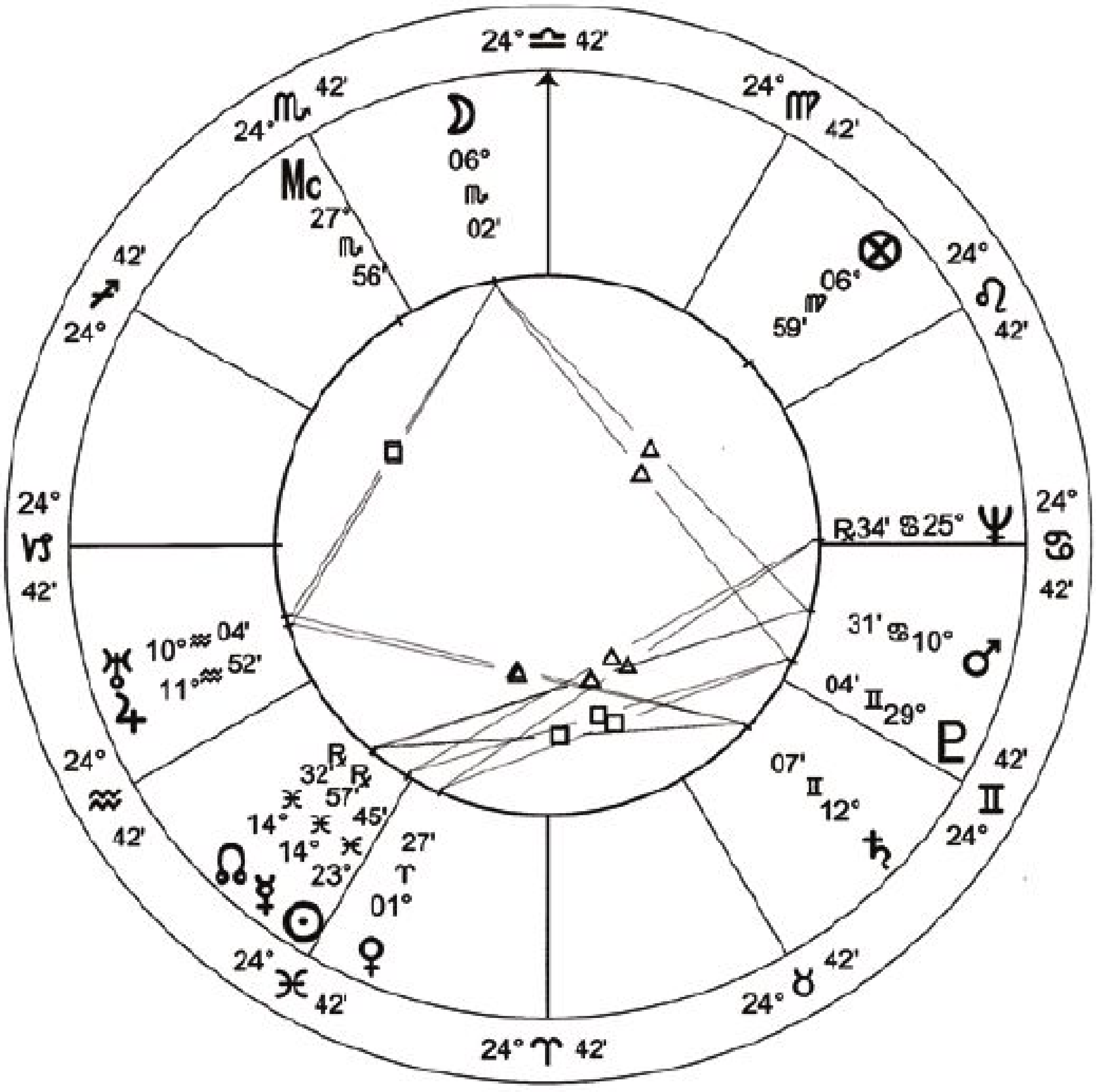
♅ discovery
1903 Solar
Return

12:27 PM
GMT,
15th March
1903:
51N23, 2W22

Figure 5:

♅ discovery
1914 Solar
Return

4:24 AM
GMT
15th March
1914:
51N23, 2W22



For my next Solar Return I move forward 114 years to 1903 (see Figure 4), the year in which the Wright brothers achieved their first successful heavier-than-air flight. It was only a few hundred yards then but it did it, and the whole subsequent history of the 20th Century has followed on from there.

The ☽ rules the chart and she is in the *Via Combusta* again, but down in the 3rd House near E.H. Cusp 4 ☌ ♂ and exactly ☍ ♀ up in the 9th close to the E.H. Cusp 10. ♂ and ♀ are both in Detriment in a mutual reception that disposes of everything else in the chart. ☿ is also in Detriment, ☌ ♃ in ♓ in the 8th House. ♅ is in the 6'h in Mutable T-Square with the ☉ in the 9th and ♇ close to Cusp 12. The ⊗, indicator of the dominant interest of the figure, is in the 7th House, very close to Cusp 8, ⚹ ♀ on Cusp 10 and △ ☽ on Cusp 4 as well as to ♇ near Cusp 12. Thus she is both in an appropriate Grand Trine in Air and a fan of sextiles with ♀ and ♇. Of course she and the Wright brothers hoped for so much from their achievement, but sadly the chart as a whole doesn't look like a release with mankind happily flapping its wings as it begins to fly. Not with all those planets in Detriment and ♅ the scientist in that mad Mutable T-Square! And, of course, our airplanes don't flap their wings. They use a fixed-wing system with a propeller or jet to pull or push them along. And that is just what flight has meant for humanity—a fixed-wing system with someone else, a government or financial interest doing the driving and decreeing the ports of call. Note that the ☉, up there in the 9th House, rules that, for he also rules the 2nd House of money. Flight hasn't brought us happiness. It has speeded everything up and worked a revolution in our day-to-day lives (♅ in the 6th House) but it hangs over us like a perpetual threat. Commercial airplanes today fly at 35,000 ft so that you can't see the terrain you are passing over and the research that makes them fly ever faster and higher has nothing to do with you but is promoted and financed by governments ever hoping for an advantage in the next war and wary of someone else obtaining it—♂ ☍ ♀ both in Detriment, ☿ in Detriment ☌ ♃ in the 8th, and ♄ in ♅'s sign in the 7th house weakly trine to ♂ in Detriment down in the 3rd. Only ♆ in the 12th seems to offer some hope. He is in exact △ ☿ in ♓ in the 8th. Is it just wish fulfillment or will we really escape from our 12th House prison one day and fly in perfect freedom to whatever place we dream of?

The next chart (Figure 5) is for March 1914, the year in which the 1st World War broke out on the 4th August. Here ♅ himself rises in his own Sign ♒, conjoined with ♃ and square to the ☽ in the 10th House. He is also ⚻ ♂ in the 6th and △ ♄, ruler of the ascending sign ♑, in the 5th.

It is an ominous chart, despite the ♃ ☌ ♅. (That probably hints at someone else's overriding interests and ambitions anyway, since ♃ rules the Midheaven which falls on the 11th House Cusp. It was a war of 'Allies' who teamed up against the Axis powers, Germany and Austria without any genuine understanding of why they were doing it).

Both sides were made up of the most 'advanced' (in the Uranian sense) nations in Europe, and indeed the whole world, at the time, and they vied with each other to design and employ the most advanced weaponry against each other. It was only eleven years since the Wright brothers achieved their first flight yet within months there were squadrons of aircraft facing each other over the Western front lines, and expert fliers who learnt the knack of shooting down less skilled airmen on the enemy side were soon known as air aces. They would climb as high as their aircraft would go and then dive down on their opponents at 180 miles an hour. "'They can certainly fly", ♅ must have been saying to himself, "whatever they like to say about me". The ability to shoot straight ahead through the propeller was developed by the Germans, who synchronized their machine gun shots to pass through the space between the revolving blades instead of smashing them. The British developed armored vehicles and shipped them to France in containers labeled 'tanks'. The Germans replied again with chlorine and mustard gas, and also made considerable use of airships kept aloft by Hydrogen gas. These had a longer range than conventional aircraft, so they were able to fly up the Thames and bomb London with them.[5] And so it went on, tit for tat, with both sides developing precision long-range rifles and machine guns.

The most devastating weapon of all those developed by Germany was the submarine, however. Their submarine design was vastly in advance of anything the Allies could produce. In the autumn of 1917 Britain had only three weeks' food supply left because of it. Only American entry into the war saved her. As an invention, the submarine is another example of a ♆ principle applied and developed with Uranian skill and know-how. The fact that it was equally important in World War II—perhaps even more so—also suggests a ♏ component in the German national horoscope. The ♅ ⚹ to ♂ in the 6th House meant that the war fundamentally disrupted the everyday way of life of all the people of Europe, both during the war years and subsequently, even though the ♂ △ to the ♏ ☽ shows that to some people the military style of life was congenial. Let us also not forget the 1918 'flu epidemic which broke out

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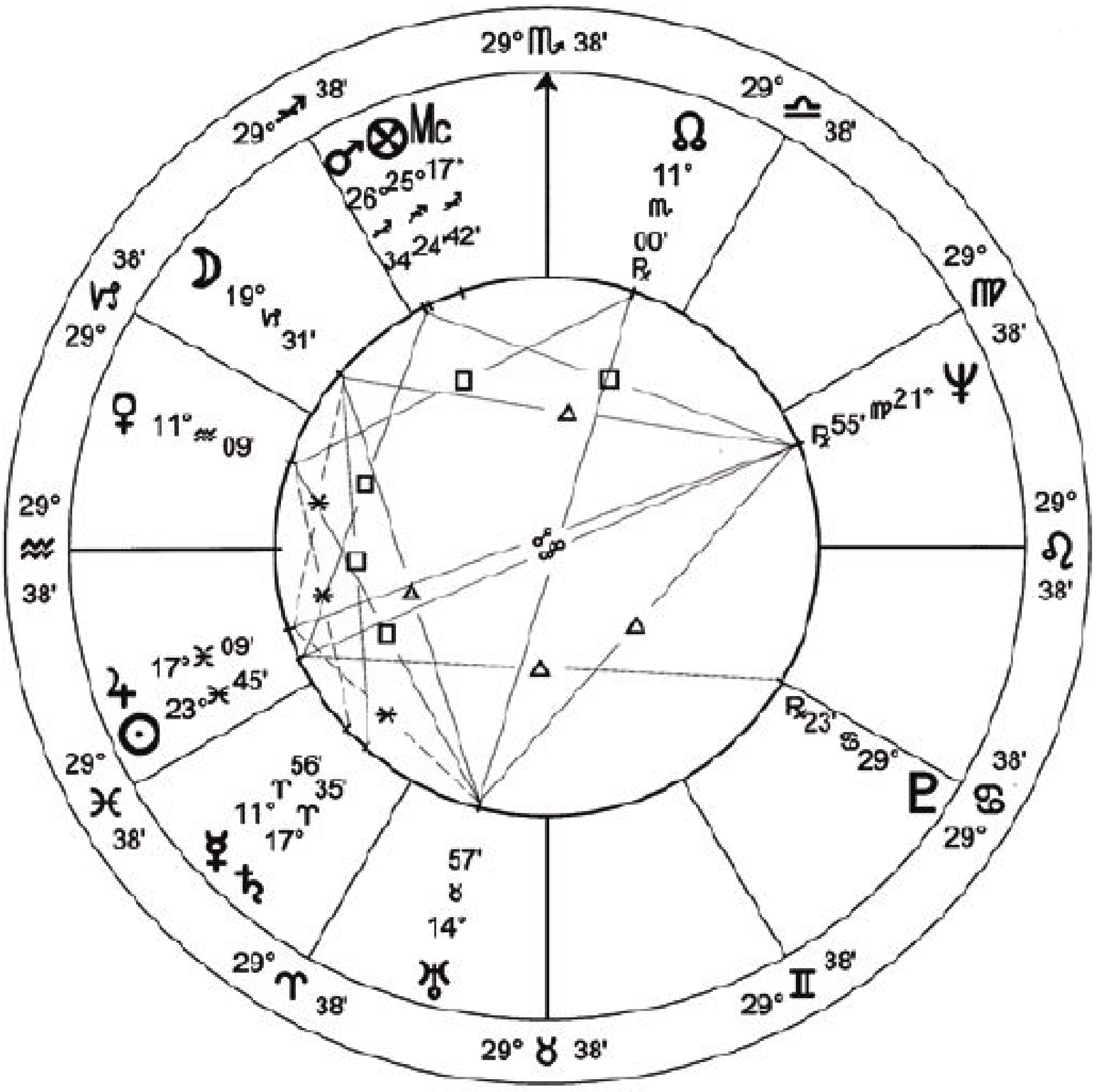
[5] Both poison gas and gas-filled Zeppelins pertain more to ♆ than to ♅, but the techniques for using both of them were Uranian brain-waves, just like the design of tanks, precision rifles and machine guns. As I pointed out earlier, the ability to discover ♆ was also made possible by Uranian developments in telescope design.

Figure 6:

♅ discovery
1939 Solar Return
5:48 AM GMT, 15th March 1939:
51N23, 2W22

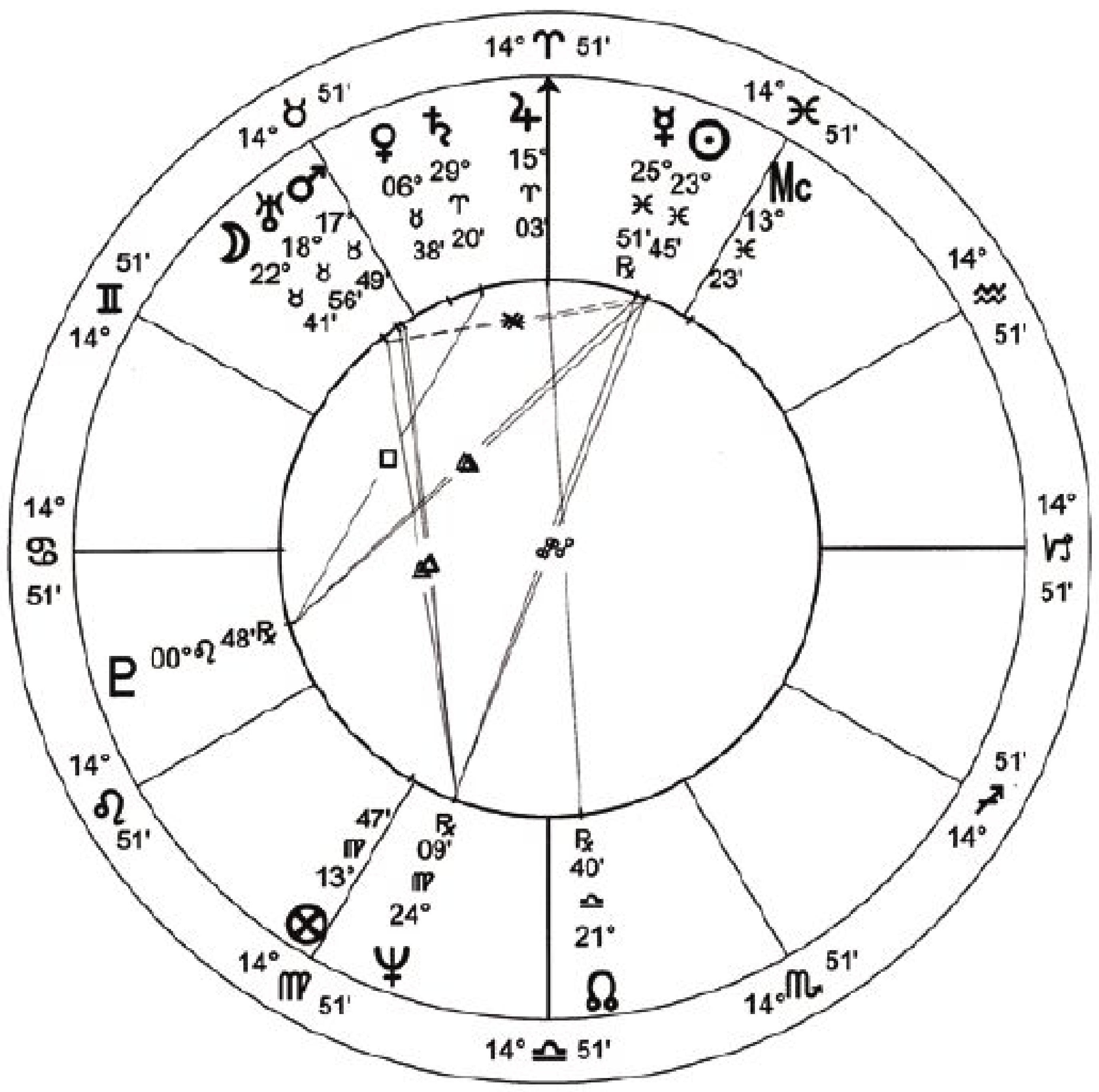


like a plague after the four years of trench warfare, killing more people, men and women, in three months than had been casualties during the whole war. Carts and trucks had to gather up the bodies each day to tip them into pits or furnaces. Who said ♂ isn't a malefic?—especially when he is in his Fall! The ♄ △ ♅ in the 5th House looks stabilizing at first sight, and it is true that both sides fought with amazing dedication and endurance, but it must be balanced by ♄ □ to ☿ in the 2nd House of Finance. The war bankrupted every nation involved in it and Europe as a whole has not recovered from it in this sense, to this day. In this context see also the oppositions to ⊗ in the 8th House from both ☿ and the ☉ in the 2nd. It wasn't just `your' money or `his' money that had gone—it was everybody's money. For that reason it is largely true to say that the 2nd World War was not a fundamentally new struggle or new development but essentially a recurrence or continuation of what began in 1914. It was nasty of course.

The 1939 ♅ Solar Return shows ♅ rising in the 3rd House in square and mutual reception to ♀ in the 12th. Possibly one could read the plight of Jews in Nazi concentration camps into that, but I personally feel that ♅ was not a foreground figure in this chart, despite the ♒ Ascendant, and that despite all the bombing raids, etc., it was very much more ♆'s stamping ground than his. ♆ is in the 7th house in ♍ in a close, unstable, Mutable T-Square with the ☉ in the 1st House and ♂ in the 10th, close to E.H. Cusp 11. Apart from the German invasion of Poland, 1939 was the era of the *phony war* when Hitler was desperately trying to get the Allies to agree to peace terms. Real fighting only began in 1940.

Figure 7:

♅ discovery
1940 Solar Return
11:40 AM
GMT,
14th March
1940:
51N23, 2W22



The 1940 chart is ruled by the ☽ and she conjoins ♅ and ♂ in the 11th House. That certainly brought action, but don't fail to note that all three are still △ ♆ down in the 3`d House, as well as more weakly to ⊗ on the 3rd Cusp. ♆ rules the Midheaven up on Cusp 9, exactly opposing ⊗ on Cusp 3, and he is also in mutual reception with ☿ who is ☌ ☉ in ♆'s ♓. There was a tremendous amount of behind-the-scenes stuff going on in that war. Look at the extended fan beginning with ⊗ ☌ the IC, proceeding to sextile with the Ascendant, which is ⚹ ♅ and ♂ on the E.H. 11th Cusp, and they sextile the Midheaven. You can read the invasion of Russia into that, but no one did anything about it till Russia was devastated and Germany exhausted, when the invasion of Europe was more or less a walkover. Uranian inventions—*new* Uranian inventions that is—hardly played any part in the struggle at all.[6]

The one big exception, of course, is the Atomic Bomb. The development of that was only successfully concluded after Germany had surrendered on 7th May 1945 (luckily for Germany) so it was only used three and a half months later on Japan. Essentially the principle of it is Plutonian but once again it was Uranian skill and know-how that made the development possible. The 1945 Solar Return at Figure 8 clearly illustrates that by means of a close extended fan beginning with ☿, the chart ruler in ♈ in the 7th House (cusp 8), ⚹ ♅ in the 9th House (cusp 10), ⚹ ♇ in the 11th House (cusp 12), who in turn is ⚹ ♆ in the 1St House (cusp 2, ☍ ☿). The chart as a whole is highly unstable.

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[6] Even ♆'s gas wasn't used. Hitler had been gassed in War War I and disliked it.

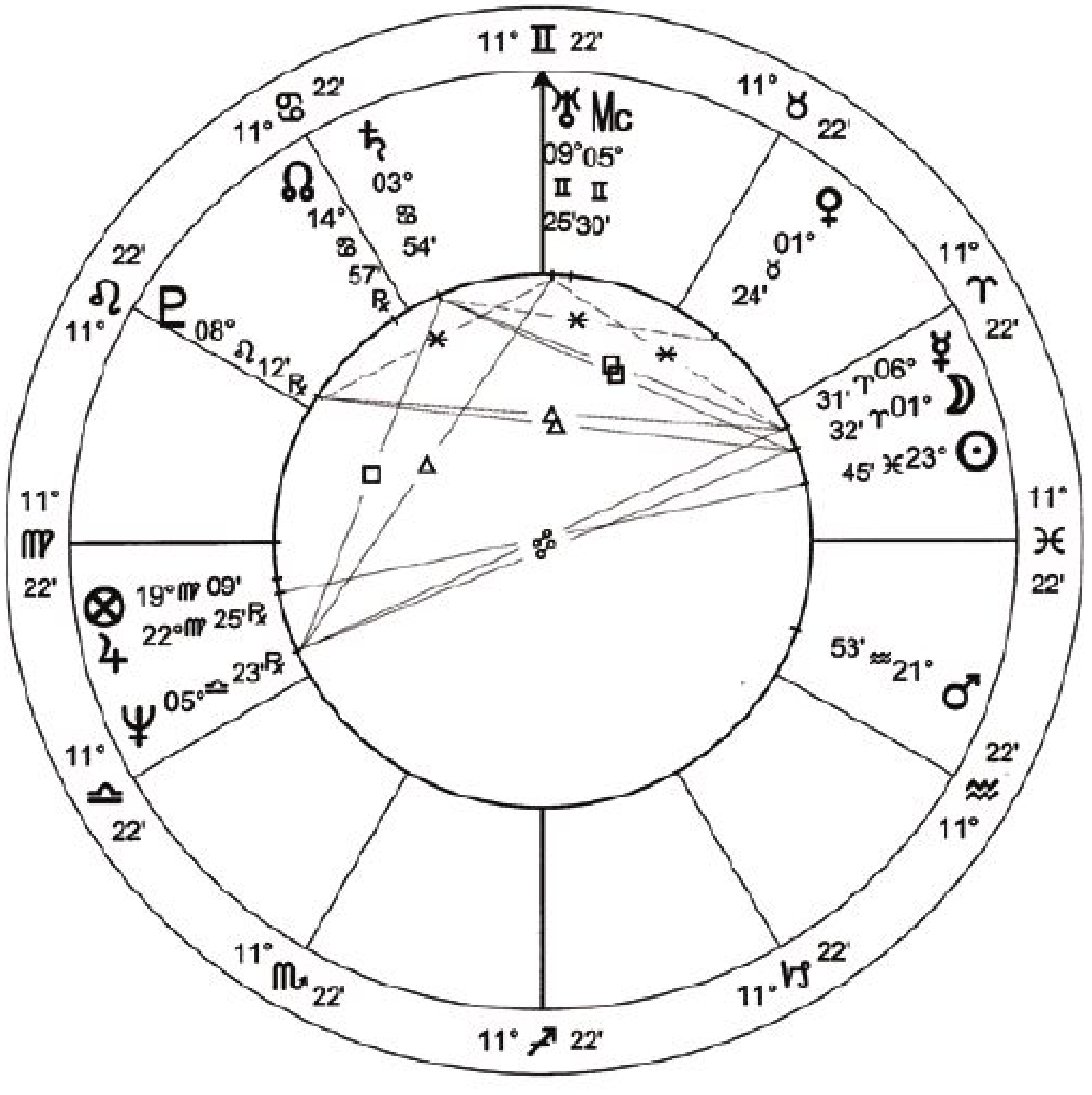


Figure 8:

♅ discovery 1945 Solar Return

4:56 PM GMT 14th March 1945: 51N23, 2W22

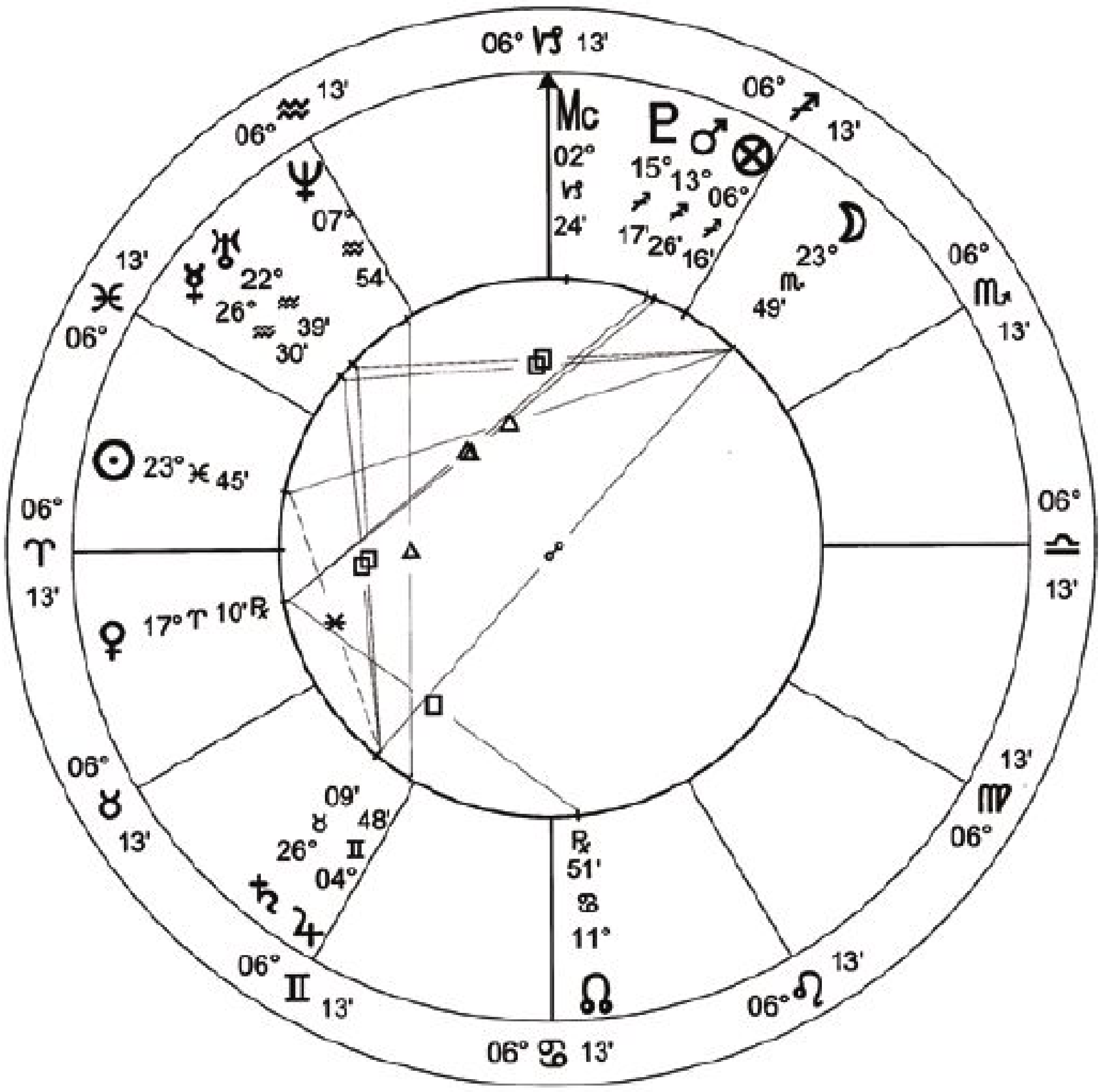
There is a close Cardinal T-Square involving ♄, ♆. and ☿ (chart ruler and ruler of the Midheaven as well), and ♄, ♆ and ♂ are in a difficult construct since ♂ is □ the other two. This neatly illustrates the atmosphere of menace that has existed in the world since the atom bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

What of the present time? We all know what happened in 2001 when four long-distance-flight airliners were hijacked on the morning of 11th September and the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York were flattened, the Pentagon also damaged, and the fourth plane was just flown into the ground, killing both the crew and all the passengers aboard. The ♅-discovery Solar Return for 2001 illustrates it so, so clearly. ♅ disposes of everything in the chart and is involved in a close fixed T-square with ☿ (in his own 11th House), the ☽ in ♏ in the 8th (all those people killed), and ♄ in ♉ in the 2nd (it was a protest against American trade and financial manipulation of the world). It was followed within days by a cyber war against Afghanistan, where the terrorist network was said to have its headquarters and principal hideout, with radio-directed bombs and rockets, and within six weeks that country was forced to surrender. Only the terrorist network itself remained at large but hidden, with its leader, Osama bin Laden, still neither killed nor captured. But one might well expect that, with ♆ △ ♃ and ♇ ☌ ♂ in the 9th House in trine to ♀ in the 1st. Some things stay alive longer than you expect when they seem to be *meant* to be around to cause trouble.

Figure 9:

♅ discovery 2001 Solar Return

6:52 AM
GMT,
14th March
2001:
51N23, 2W22



President Bush has been rattling his saber ever since, all through 2002, with persistent threats against Iraq and its president Saddam Hussein, though no definite connection between him and Osama bin Laden and his Al Qaeda network has been proved.

The 2002 Solar Return at Figure 10 is not a particularly warlike or violent one and although ♅ is on the 8th Cusp he is weakly aspected and not at all prominent. In the 2001 chart ♂'s sign ♈ was rising. Here ♂ is only involved in a weak fan of sextiles with ♃ in the 12th and ☿ in the 8th, suggesting more talk than action. A much stronger fan links ♄ in the 11th to ♀ in the 9th and ♆ in the 7th, showing that those in favor of peace and delay and foot dragging tend to win the day. And though ♅ does still dispose of the majority of planets and angles in the chart, a mutual reception of ♀ and ♂ stands outside his sphere of influence.

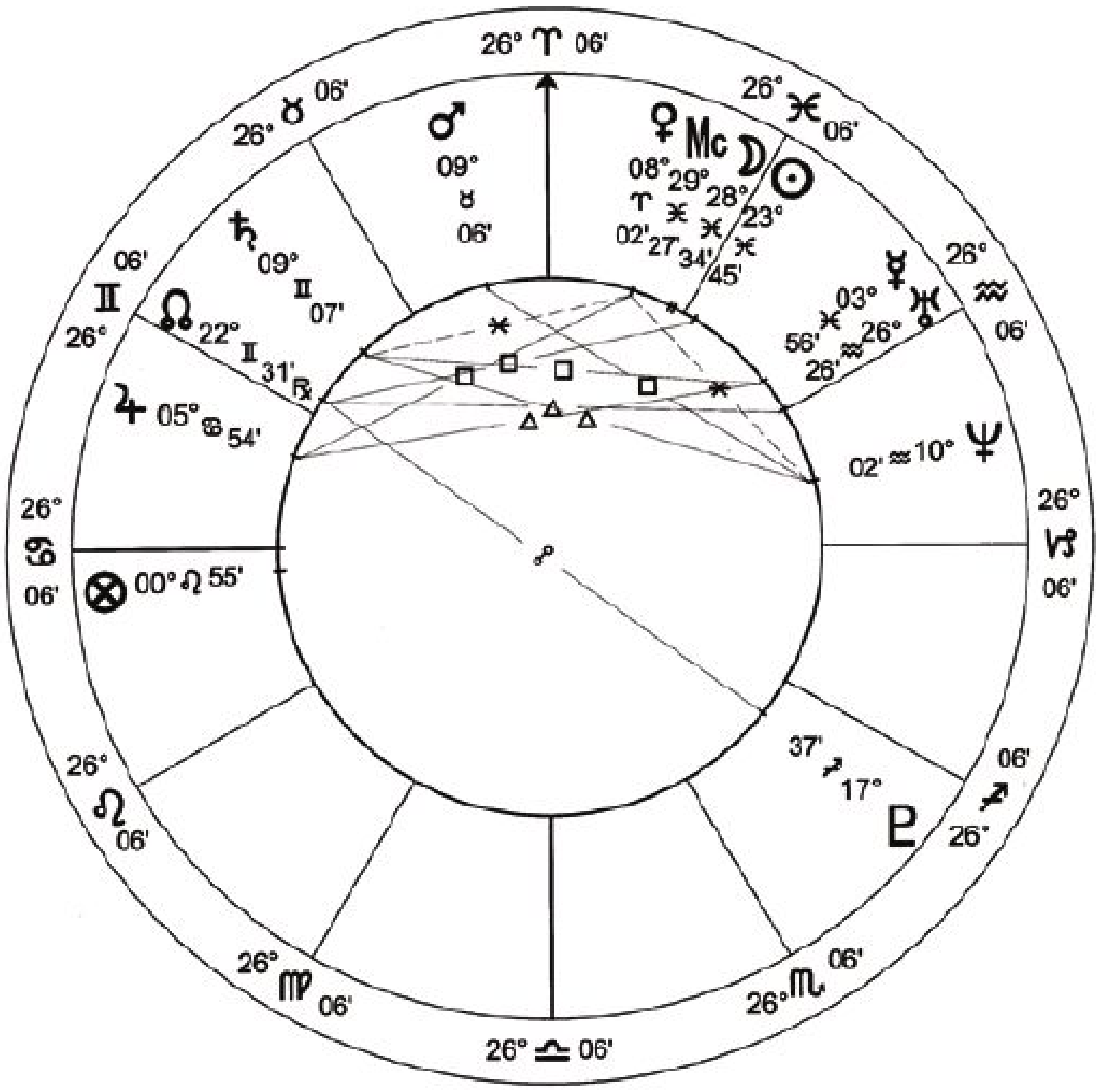
The 2003 Solar Return at Figure 11 is a more disturbing figure. ♅ is still very weakly aspected with only a possible sextile to ♂, a possible dissociate trine to ♄ and possible quintile to ♇, all at the absolute limit of orbs of these contacts, but the chart itself has a frighteningly close mutable T-square of ♄, ☉-☿ and ♇, all on angles, transforming the configuration into an angular Grand Cross. And ♅ *is* involved, for he has just moved into ♓ so he is in mutual reception with ♆, still in ♒, and that mutual reception disposes of everything else in the figure. ♆ is strong,

☌ ⊗ and ♀ and ☍ ♃. ⊗ is almost exactly ☍ ♃, both Zodiacally and by contra parallel. A great deal could happen in 2003 under these aspects and that ghastly angular mutable T-square—the most unstable of all the four possible forms of T-square, well known to appear again and again in the charts of insane people.

Figure 10:

♅ discovery 2002 Solar Return

12:39 PM GMT, 14th March 2002: 51N23, 2W22



However, I don't think it will be another quick Cyber War. If President Bush attacks Iraq[7], I think we shall see either Neptunian gas being used, or germ/virus warfare—perhaps both. And remember that ♆ rules oil, as well. Iraq is a prime oil-producing country and oil has been an ever present though de-emphasized reason for this whole conflict, all along. While ♅ was in his own Sign ♒ he consistently disposed of ♆ in the same Sign, all the time, and the Rockefeller oil interests wanted an oil pipeline from Turkmenistan through Afghanistan to the Middle East and Europe. Isn't it funny? No! It isn't funny at all! And germ/virus warfare won't be funny either!

♅ is an impatient planet. It almost feels as though he is fed up with having been passed over in the history of human development for so many centuries or millennia. He wants everything and everybody to catch up, quickly, and he doesn't care how many people get hurt or sidelined in the process. If there is to be travel, it must be up-to-date travel; if there is to be communication, it must be up-to-date communication; and if there is to be war, it must be up-to-date war.

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[7] Written November 2002

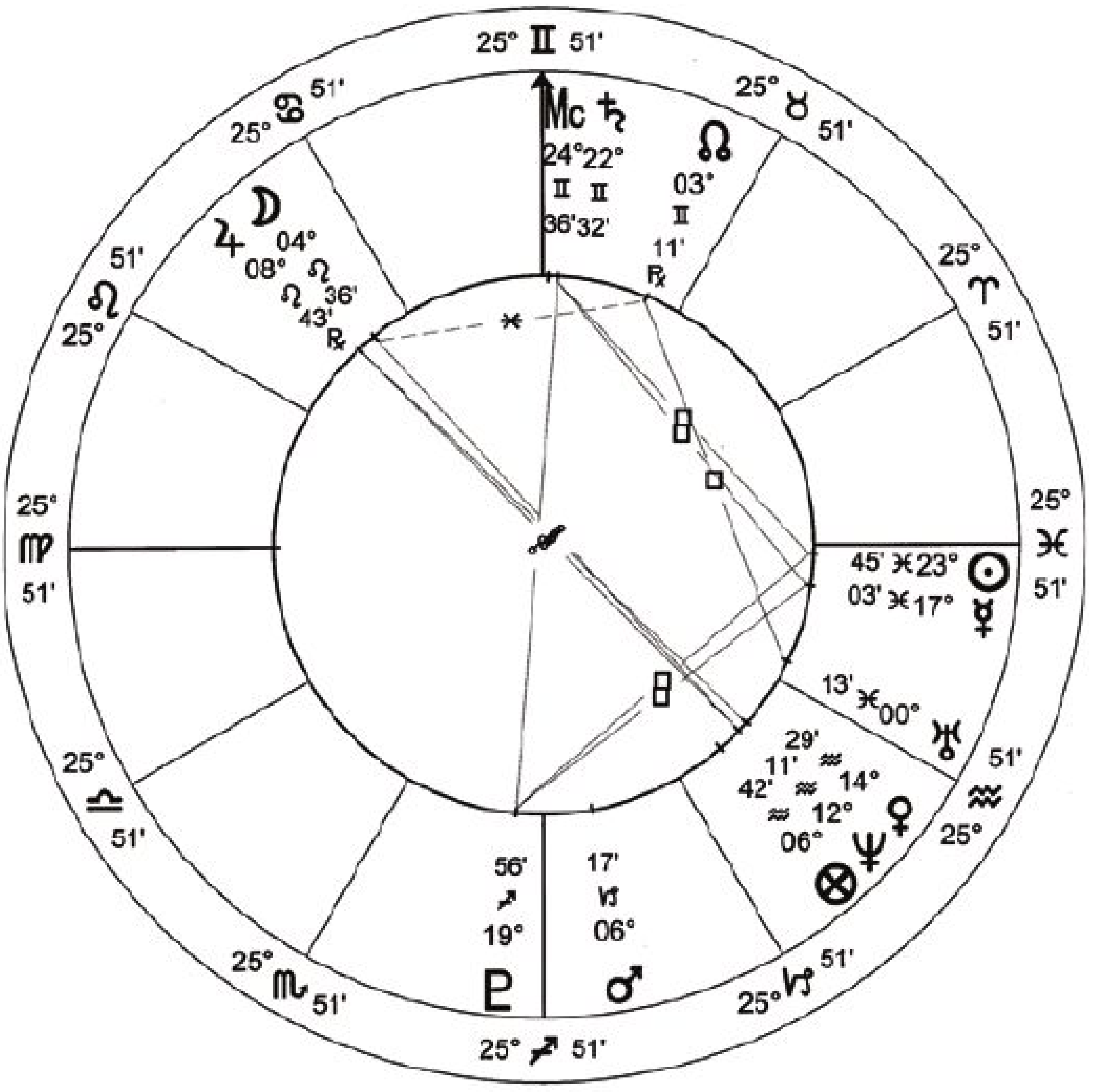


Figure 11:

♅ discovery
2003 Solar
Return

6:18 PM
GMT
14th March
2003:
51N23, 2W22

Carl Sagan said somewhere that in the last 200 years the speed of communication has increased by a factor of thirty million. 200 years ago information could be sent from one city to another no faster than by horse. Today it can go by phone, radio or television at the speed of light. And practically everything else has changed in a similarly staggering way, from agriculture to industry to information processing and storage. The population no longer lives in the countryside but is 99% concentrated in cities and it has swollen to the point that planet Earth is no longer truly capable of supporting it. Famine looms unless it is drastically reduced by war.

There is enormous social upheaval, unparalleled in all the previous history of mankind, because although we live in cities and work at city jobs and eat city-processed food our instincts and emotions are still those of our hunter-gatherer ancestors of a million years ago. We still make old economic assumptions, distribute resources in old traditional ways, and use old methods of choosing political leaders. There are many vested interests that actually oppose change, one prime example being those who control the production and use of oil. Automobile engines that run on water instead of petrol have been produced again and again but have always been suppressed and denied. Tesla showed that unlimited electrical energy could be tapped directly from the Earth, obviating all need for coal, oil or nuclear reactors, but this too has been vetoed. Certain people would lose too much money if these particular changes were made, money which means power, so they are not made.

The vested interests will commit murders and foment wars to prevent them, even though the ecology of the Earth is threatened as things are at present. Every time a serious effort is made to protect and preserve the environment, it runs into an enormous social or vested interest.

The problem is worsened because non-Western, non-technological societies envy the great material wealth and power of the West and are scrambling to westernize themselves. Ancient traditions, world-views and ways of life are being abandoned even more callously than has happened in the West itself.

Is the problem technology itself—that is, ♅ himself—or is it the misuse of technology?

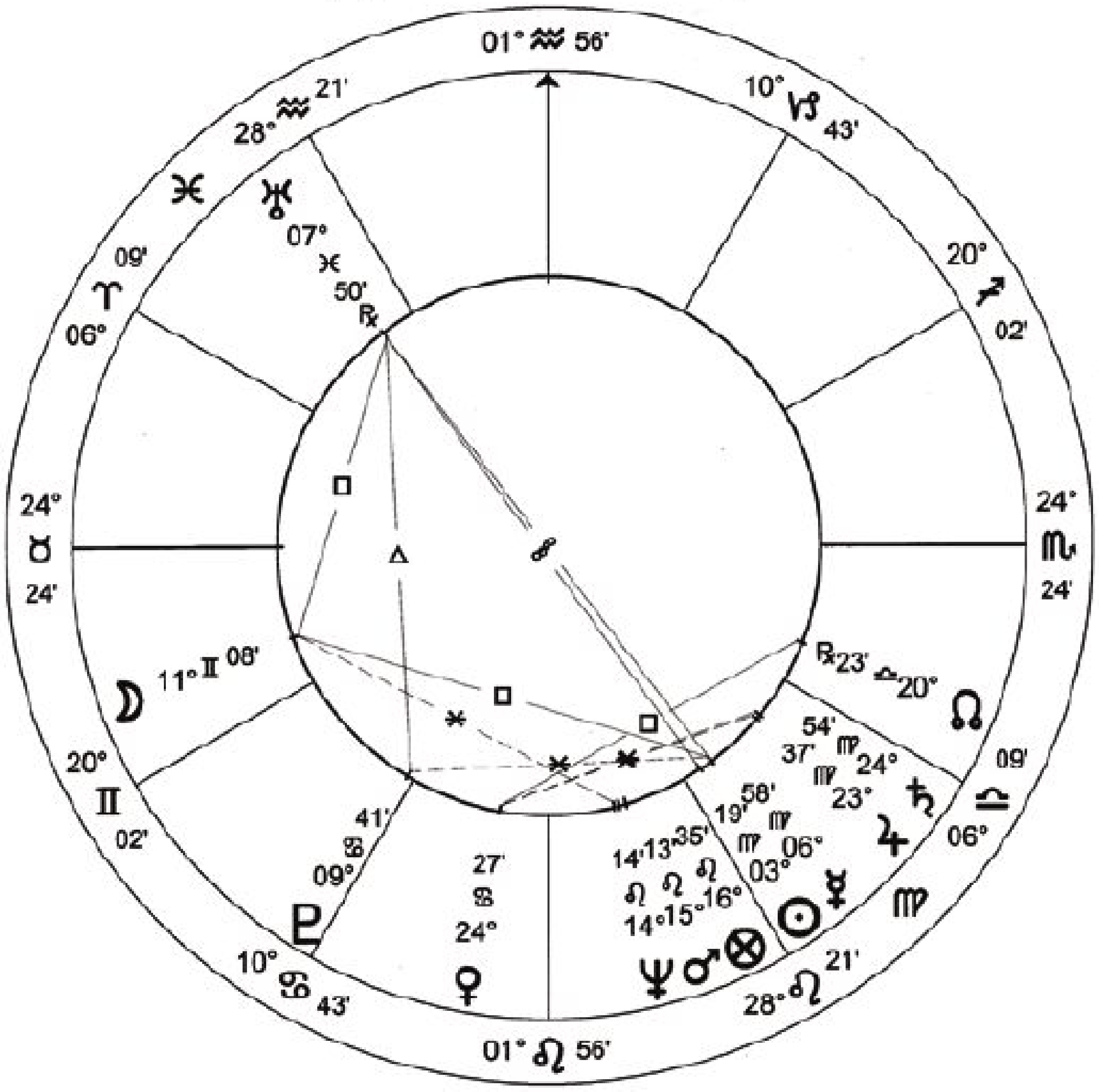
I suspect it is both, unfortunately. Technology is misused, abused, exploited in the interest of political, military or economic advantage and power, and sometimes suppressed or perverted for the same reasons. But the change itself has been too great and too quick. And you can't just go back on it now. Today too many people in the world totally depend on it. They didn't just die in early childhood as they would have done in the past but grew to maturity and then multiplied and multiplied. In 1960, the world population was only two billion. Now it is over six billion. Only technology and the colonization of other worlds can save the situation or war will correct it by means of mass extermination using technology's own exquisite destructive techniques.

Which will it be?

Probably war first, I suspect, and then possibly, if anyone is left alive, a more restrained use of technology when ♅ himself has been taught patience by longer association with the other, older planets.

IN EARLY JUNE, Astrology lost two of most prominent practitioners, Zip Dobyns and Lois Rodden. They both died in California, within 48 hours of each other. We are saddened by our loss but immensely grateful for the riches each of these fine women brought to Astrology

Zipporah Dobyns



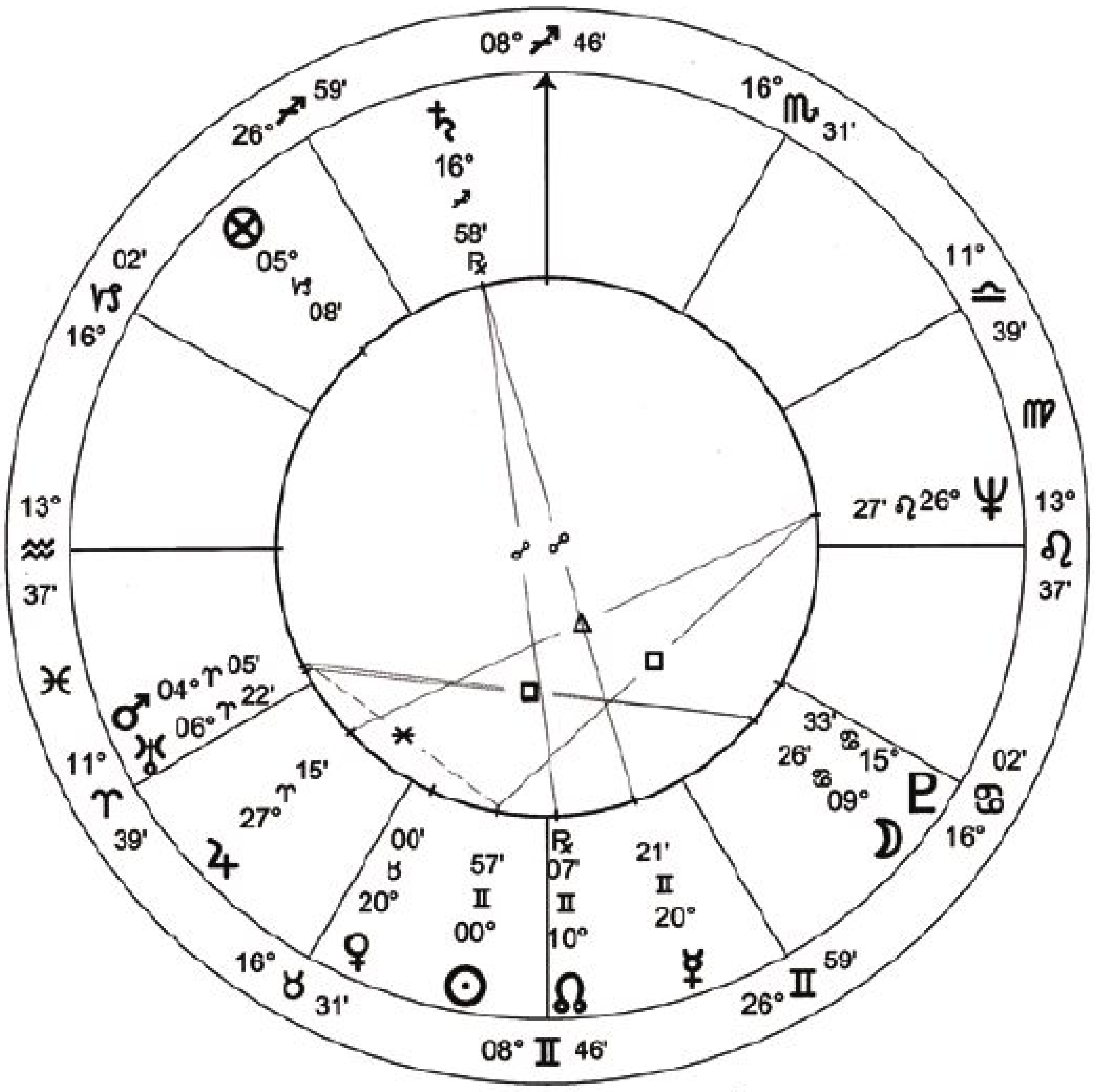
9:47 PM CST, 26th August 1921 (03:47 UT 27th August)
Chicago, Illinois: 41N52 87W39
Source: from her

Zip had a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, she was an ordained minister in the Community Church of Religious Science, an astrological counselor, a frequent and well-loved speaker at conferences, the author of several books, and a strong supporter of ISAR, the International. Society for Astrological Research, since its first beginnings in the late 60s. In recent years she had devoted much time to researching asteroids. She was highly regarded by the astrological community, having been awarded two *Regulus* awards: in 1992 for Education, in 1995 for Discovery & Innovation. Zip was the mother of Rique, Bill, Maritha and Mark Pottenger.

Zip died on 7th June 2003, between 3 and 6 AM PDT, at her home in Jamul, California.

◆

Lois Rodden



00:22 AM MST (07:22 UT) 22nd May 1928
Lang, Saskatchewan, Canada: 49N56 104W23
Source: from her (rectified from “just after midnight”)

Lois was a prolific data collector, author and researcher. Her first data volume, *Profiles of Women*, appeared in 1979, and was followed by additional volumes, each of which contained horoscope illustrations, short biographies, exact data sources and details of conflicting birth times. Her classification system for birth data (A = accurate, from birth certificate, hospital record, personal statement; B = biography; C = approximate; DD = dirty data, speculative and rectified times) has become the standard for all astrological data collectors.

In April 2003 she published issue number 100 of her bi-monthly newsletter *Data News*, which she had produced for 16 years, and wrote that it would be the closing issue, “after which I shall go gentle into that good night.”

Lois died at around 8:30 AM PDT on 5th June 2003 at her home in Yucaipa, California.

Robert Zoller & the Alchabitius Primary Direction Method

Rumen Kolev

IN BOOK II of his *'Tools and Techniques of the Medieval Astrologer'* Robert Zoller[1] comments on the primary directions described by Guido Bonatti and Alchabitius. He also gives example of an interplanetary direction, the trine of ♃ to the ☉ from his own chart.

This has awoken some spirits out of their slumber with the result that more students of Astrology have begun investigating this highly complex but amazing and generously rewarding field of primary directions.

Several people have asked me about these 'Zoller directions'. "Are they a new type of directions or what?" Can my program *Placidus* compute them?

The following aims to clarify these matters and show the true nature of this type of primary direction.

However, for the impatient, I will give my conclusions here:

1. Zoller exemplifies and uses the algorithm of Alchabitius.
2. The algorithm of Alchabitius is just another mathematical way to compute the Semi-Arc primary directions, known also as the Placidean Semi-Arc. These directions are actually the true Ptolemaic primaries, so that Zoller = Alchabitius = Placidus Semi-Arc = Ptolemy.
3. The computer program *Placidus* can compute these directions.

Now we can go into some detail.

The man we know as Alchabitius was an Arab astrologer from the 10th century (he died in 967). His full name was Abü al-Saqr al-Qabîsî 'Azîz ibn 'Uthmān. His book, *Introduction to the Art of Judgments of the Stars*, was famous in Latin translation in Medieval Europe. Many European astrologers, for example the famous Luca Gauricus,[2] used the method of Alchabitius. However, Alchabitius did not invent the 'Alchabitius method' for it is actually the same method that Ptolemy expounds in his *Tetrabiblos*.

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[1] *Tools and Techniques if the Medieval Astrologers, Book II: Astrological Prediction by Direction and the Subdivision of the Signs*, 3rd edition (revised). London: New Library, 2003.
Only available from www.new-library.com/zoller/catalogue.

[2] Luca Gauricus from the 16th century was famous with his prediction of the tragic death of the Henry II, king of France. He explained the Alchabitius method in his book *Tabulae De Primo Mobili Quas Directionum Vocitant* (Rome, 1557)

The system of house division and primary directions to which Alchabitius' name became attached was expounded by several Arab writers, it was in fact widely known and used in the apogee of the Caliphate at least a century before Alchabitius was born. However, since his book was very widely read in Europe after its translation in the 12th century, the system was generally ascribed to him[3]. It is unlikely that we will ever know who first invented this algorithm as the idea for it goes back as far as Ptolemy.

Among the Arab astrologers, both before and after Alchabitius, who expounded the 'Alchabitius method' of directing we find al-Battani (born 858), al-Biruni (10th century), ibn Ridwan (11th century), al-Marwazi and al-Khakani.

Ali Ibn Ridwan is interesting. He was an astrologer and doctor from Cairo, who wrote a commentary on Ptolemy, in which we find the algorithm, exactly the same, even in its mathematical form, as that given by Alchabitius. He appears to have had a good knowledge of Old Greek and probably read Ptolemy in original.[4] His commentary was translated into Old Castilian and then into Latin at the court of Alfonso X the Wise sometime in the 13th century. Based on another treatise of his *De Tribus Nativitatibus*[5], we know he was born in a poor family on 15th January 988 and wrote the comments on Ptolemy when in his forties—sometime around 1030—in Cairo where he was a practicing doctor, held in big esteem by the Caliph of Egypt himself.

Where did the Arab astrologers get this from? From Ptolemy.

Later Giovanni Antonio Magini[6] (1555-1617) and some years after Placido de Titus (1603-1668), generally known simply as Placidus, expounded the same Ptolemaic primary directions method. Since then it has become known as the Semi-Arc or the Placidean method. The algorithm Magini and Placidus devised differs from that of Ptolemy and the Arabs.

Zoller mentions the astrologers Kühr and Morinus. These two, it must be emphasized, directed in ways that are completely different from each other and that are also very different from the Ptolemaic method.

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[3] *Islamische Encyclopaedie*, 1900-1911, article on al-Tasyir (direction).

[4] *The Encyclopedia of Islam*, 1971, London, article on Ibn Ridwan.

[5] *De tribus nativitatibus* (Of three charts), the first of which is his own.

[6] Giovanni Antonio Magini, author of *Tabulae Primi Mobilis* (Venice, 1604), was the teacher of Andrea Argoli, who in turn was the teacher of Placidus. Argoli is widely mentioned and praised by William Lilly.

Erich Karl Kühr[7] (1899-1951), a specialist in primary directions, directed using the Placidean Under-The-Pole method, which started with Placidus. Jean Baptiste Morin (1583-1656), the leading astrologer of the 17th century, directed with the Regiomontanus method, which started mathematically with the 15th century German astrologer Johann Müller, better known as Regiomontanus.

In short, the three attested historical ways[8] of directing come from antiquity and the Renaissance[9]. They are:

The **Ptolemaic** method, which began with Ptolemy in antiquity. This method was used by Ptolemy, al-Biruni, ibn Ridwan, Alchabitius, Gauricus, Placidus, Simmonite. This is the method both Robert Zoller and I use.

The **Regiomontanus** method—*Via Rationalis*—started in the 15th century by Regiomontanus[10], at the height of the Renaissance. It was used by Regiomontanus, Magini, Argoli, Morin and William Lilly.

The **Placidean Under-the-Pole** method—started in the 17th century with Placidus, at the time of the late Renaissance. It was used by Placidus, Sepharial and Kūhr.

1. The method of Alchabitius is the same as the Ptolemaic. In essence it is the Placidus semi-arc method and will give identical mathematical results.
2. Their difference is only in the mathematical algorithms used. The algorithms are different but the method is the same. (As is well known, there are billions of ways in math to arriving at the same result of a problem).
3. One and the same direction computed using both algorithms, Alchabitius and Placidean Semi-Arc, will give the same directional arc, which is the Holy Grail of primary directing.
4. Computed in the Regiomontanus or the Placidean Under-the-Pole method, the direction will have another two arcs of direction, which are very different from each other and from that computed in the Placidian semi-arc method.
5. The program *Placidus* computes the Alchabitius method, but names it the Placidean Semi-Arc method.

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[7] E. K. Kühr. Berechnung Der Ereigniszeiten (Calculation of the Time of Events) Vienna, 1936.

[8] The 16th century astrologer, mathematician, physician and writer, Jerome Cardan, who is still famous today, invented his own method (described in volume 5 of his *Opera Omnia*), but had no followers.

[9] The Renaissance began with the translation of Old Greek and Arabic authors into Latin and continued until Latin was used as the *lingua franca*.

[10] Regiomontanus. *Tabulae directionum profectionumque*…1551

6 It also computes the other old methods: the Regiomontanus (Morin) and Placidus Under-the-Pole (Kūhr).

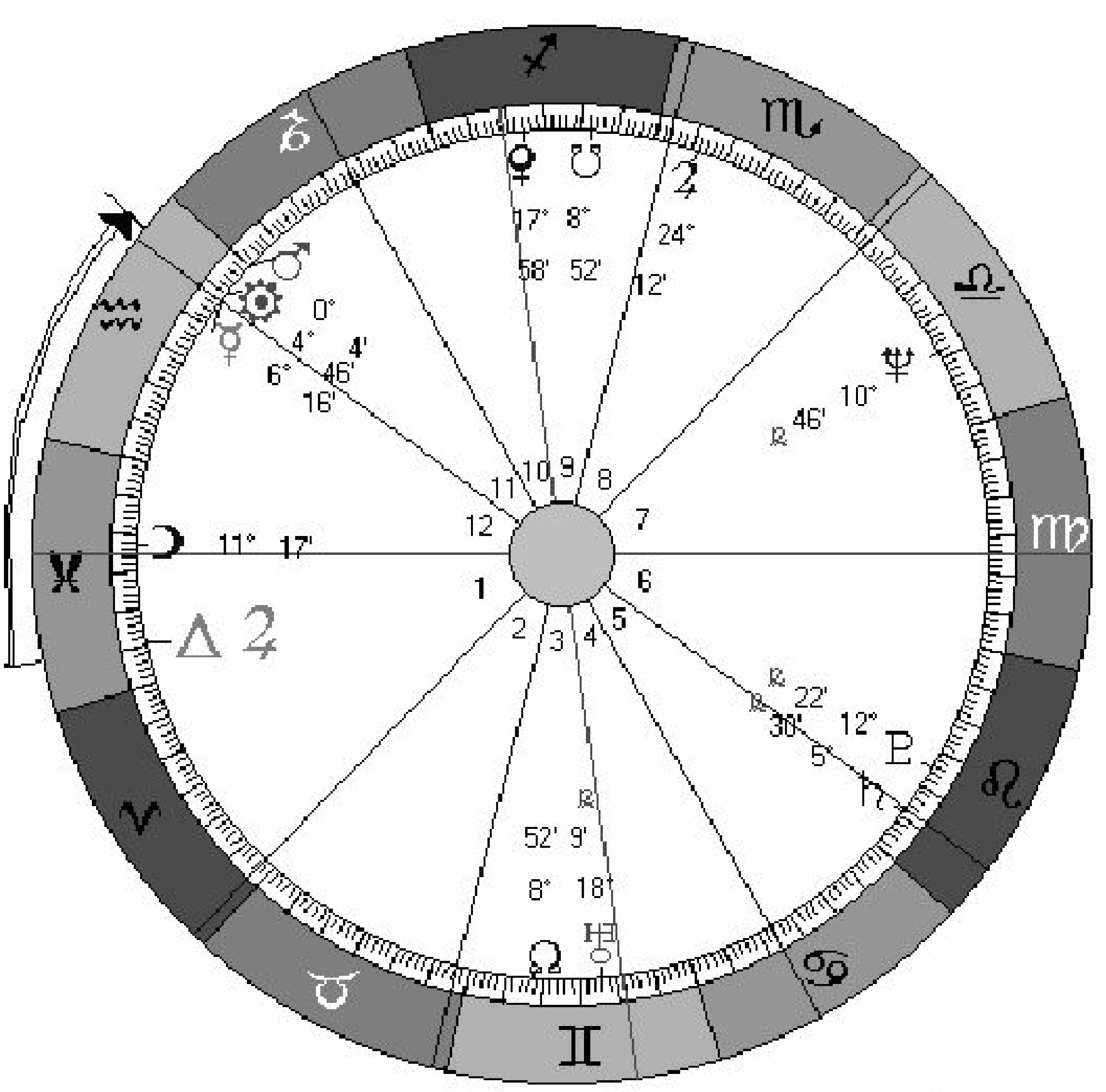
Recomputing Zoller's example direction

In book two of his Tools & *Techniques of the Medieval Astrologer,* page 56, Zoller gives as an example of an interplanetary direction, a direction in his own chart: **zod. △ ♃ direct →☉.**

Figure 1

The horoscope of Robert Zoller *(from the computer program 'Placidus')*

8:59 AM
25th January
1947;
40N54'45"
73W50'15"



House system Placidus			Planets data				
Asc	12°38'	♓		*Long*		*Lat*	*R/D*
2	28°22'	♈	☉	4°46'05"	♒	0°00'00"	
3	28°15'	♉	☽	11°17'03"	♓	-5°05'21"	
4	20°46'	♊	☿	6°16'12"	♒	-2°05'04"	D
5	11°45'	♋	♀	17°58'06"	♐	+3°44'13"	D
6	6°10'	♌	♂	0°04'23"	♒	-1°00'33"	D
Dsc	12°38'	♍	♃	24°12'02"	♏	+1°01'53"	D
8	28°22'	♎	♄	5°29'35"	♌	+0°35'26"	R
9	28°15'	♏	♅	18°08'38"	♊	+0°05'27"	R
10	20°46'	♐	♆	10°45'33"	♎	+1°31'25"	R
11	11°45'	♑	♇	12°21'49"	♌	+6°56'07"	R
12	6°10'	♒	☊	8°51'34"	♊	0°00'00"	

Here the promittor or the point that is carried *with the celestial sphere (primo mobili)* is the zodiacal trine of ♃ which is in 24°12' ♓.

This point is carried until it 'reaches' the ☉.

It can, of course, never reach the ☉, but it reaches a point which is similar to the point occupied by the ☉.

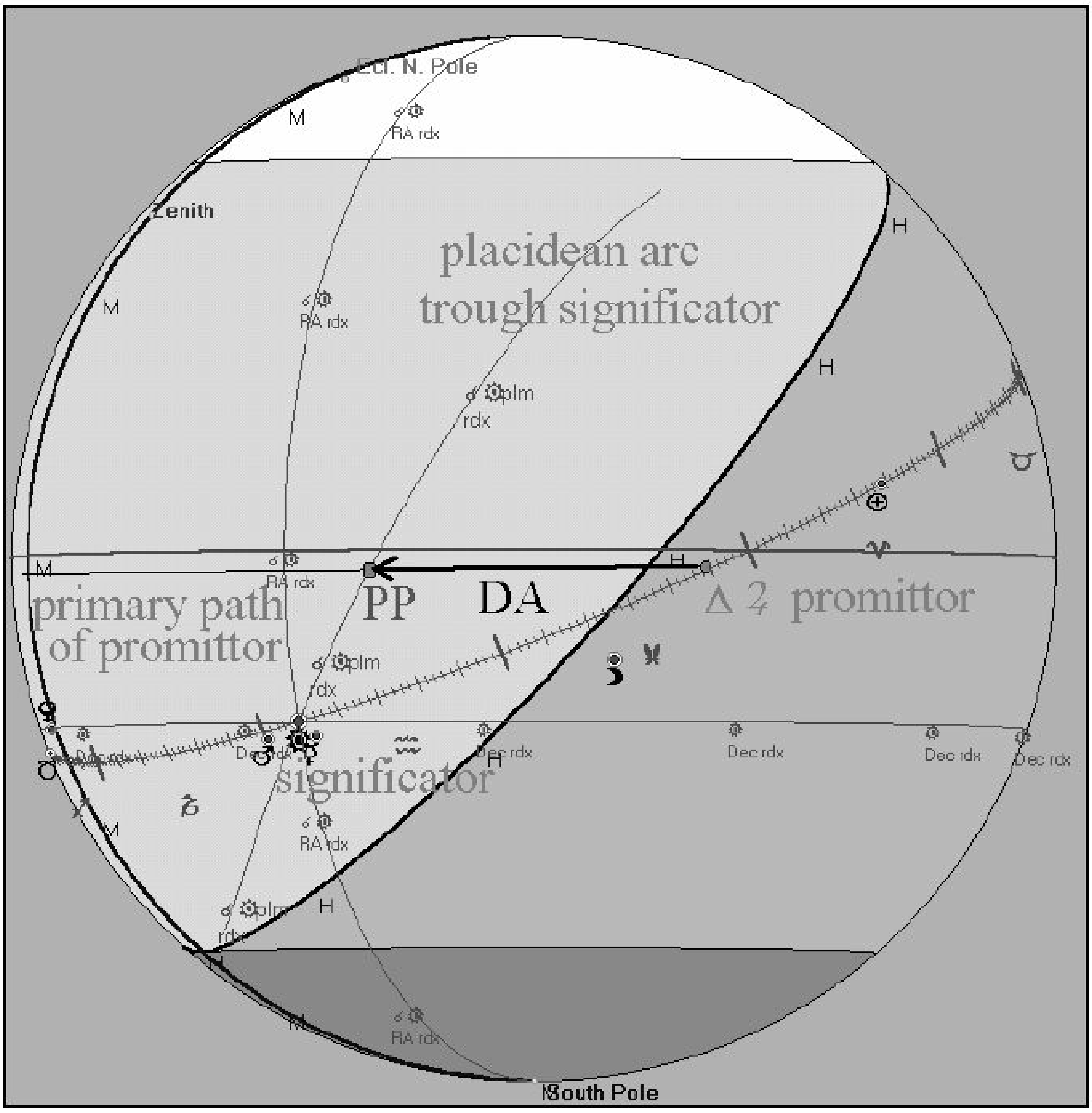


Figure 2:

The horoscope of Robert Zoller in 3 dimensions
The primary direction zod. △ ♃ direct → ☉ shown in 3D.
(from the computer program 'Placidus')

This will be clear when we look at Figure 2, which shows Robert Zoller's horoscope in three dimensions. We can see the promittor and the primary path that it sweeps with the celestial sphere. In the semi-arc method of Placidus, we can construct a *Placidian arc* through any significator. Every point on this arc will divide its semi-diurnal arc in the same proportion as the significator[11]. In our case the significator is the ☉. Wherever the Placidian arc through the significator, ☉, crosses the primary path of the promittor, △ ♃, this point is called *Pars Proportionalis* (Proportional Point), PP on the picture.

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[11] Anyone wanting a clear explanation of the basic terms of the primary directions and their astronomical meaning should obtain my books *Primary Directions—Basics* and *Placidian Classic (semi-arc) Primary Directions*.

△ ♃ should reach PP in order for the direction △ ♃ direct →⊙ to be complete. We measure this in time (equatorial degrees) and call it the Directional Arc (DA). After we find out the DA, in degrees, we transform it in larger units of time (years) by a key of choice (the simplest one is 1° = 1 solar year).

Up to this point the direction has been explained as a Placidus Semi-Arc which is the easiest way to compute, understand and envision the method of Ptolemy.

Now we will turn to the algorithm of Alchabitius, examine it in 3D and prove graphically and mathematically that this is the same as the Placidian Semi-Arc. Look at Figure 3.

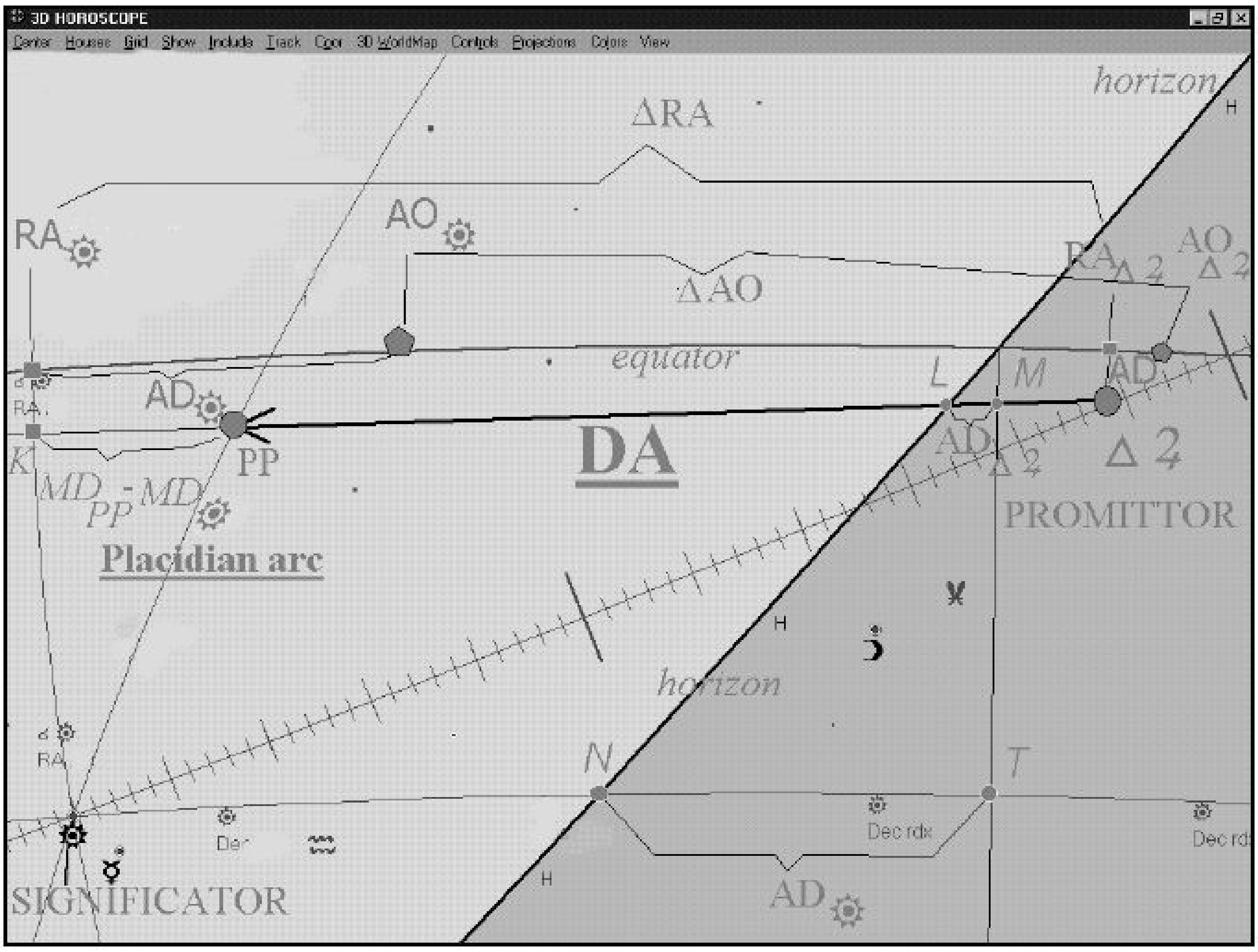

Figure 3:

Zooming in on the region of interest
(from the computer program 'Placidus')

Here we see the primary paths of the promittor and the significator.

The MT arc is an equatorial meridian through the cross point between the horizon and the equator. All points on this arc are 90° from the meridian and have the same RA. We can see here graphically the ascensional difference (AD) of the △ ♃ and the ⊙. It shows by how many degrees the diurnal semi arc (of a point) differs from 90.

Now we are ready to do the Alchabitius algorithm graphically:

We project the significator, ⊙, and the promittor, △ ♃, on the equator with a Right-Ascension (equatorial) Meridian and get the points of their right ascensions: $RA_{\odot}$ and $RA_{\triangle ♃}$.

We can see also graphically the $\triangle RA = RA_{\triangle ♃} - RA_{\odot}$. This is what Alchabitius calls the Significator of Right Circle (point 3 of the algorithm on page 53 of Zoller).

Now let us turn to the famous *Ascensio Obliqua* (AO). The AO is the time-projection of the point onto the equator and in the time-plane of the horizon. The AO rises together with the point on the horizon. If we connect all points that rise together with a certain star we will get the ascensional circle of that star. It will be what we see on the horizon when that star rises.

To get the Ascensio Obliqua (AO) of the ⊙ and the △♃, we can add the absolute value of their ascensional differences (AD) to their right ascensions (RA). We can see this on the picture as well.

The formula is: AO = RA - AD.[12]

Their difference, $\Delta AO = AO_{\triangle ♃} - AO_{\odot}$, is called *Significator of the Region* by Alchabitius and is point 4 of the algorithm.

Now we are at point 5 of the algorithm. We subtract *Significator of the Region* from *Significator of Right Circle*: $\Delta RA - \Delta AO$.

We see from the graph that $\Delta RA - \Delta AO$ is just $AD_{\odot} - AD_{\triangle ♃}$ by absolute value (or $AD_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\odot}$ mathematically)

We can prove this purely mathematically too:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta RA - \Delta AO &= RA_{\triangle ♃} - RA_{\odot} - (AO_{\triangle ♃} - AO_{\odot}) \\
&= RA_{\triangle ♃} - RA_{\odot} - AO_{\triangle ♃} + AO_{\odot} = \\
&= RA_{\triangle ♃} - RA_{\odot} - (RA_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\triangle ♃}) + (RA_{\odot} - AD_{\odot}) \\
&= RA_{\triangle ♃} - RA_{\odot} - RA_{\triangle ♃} + AD_{\triangle ♃} + RA_{\odot} - AD_{\odot} \\
&= AD_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\odot}.
\end{aligned}
$$

Now, the trick is to add and subtract 90° from this.

$$
\begin{aligned}
&= AD_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\odot} \\
&= AD_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\odot} + 90 - 90 \\
&= + 90 + AD_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\odot} - 90 \\
&= + (90 + AD_{\triangle ♃}) - (90 + AD_{\odot}) \\
&= DSA_{\triangle ♃} - DSA_{\odot}.
\end{aligned}
$$

This holds because the diurnal semi-arc = 90 + AD.

Now we can continue with the Alchabitius algorithm, but use this $DSA_{\triangle ♃} - DSA_{\odot}$ notation which mathematically (by value) is equal to $AD_{\triangle ♃} - AD_{\odot}$.

---

[12] As the AD for the ⊙ and the △♃ are both negative, minus a negative number gives a + number. That's why the AO increases over the RA in this cases.

Now we are at the end of point 5: We will multiply $DSA_{\triangle ♃} - DSA_{\odot}$ by the Meridian Distance of the ⊙.

$$(DSA_{\triangle ♃} - DSA_{\odot}) * MD_{\odot}.$$

Point 6 is to divide it by the $DSA_{\odot}$.

$$(DSA_{\triangle ♃} - DSA_{\odot}) * MD_{\odot} / DSA_{\odot}.$$

This is equal to $DSA_{\triangle ♃} * MD_{\odot} / DSA_{\odot} - DSA_{\odot} * MD_{\odot} / DSA_{\odot}$

$$= DSA_{\triangle ♃} * MD_{\odot} / DSA_{\odot} - MD_{\odot}$$

In the first member here, we see immediately the Placidian formula for finding the Meridian Distance of the Proportional Point (PP) which is $DSA_{\triangle ♃} * MD_{\odot} / DSA_{\odot}$. It comes from the equation:

$$MD_{pp} / DSA_{pp} \text{ (prom)} = MD \text{ sig.} / DSA \text{ sig.}$$

This equation is the corner-stone of the Placidian-Ptolemaic logic. It describes the Placidian arc that connects points with position between rise and culmination the same as proportionate to their diurnal semi-arc.

From this we get $MD_{pp} = DSA_{pp} \text{ (prom)} * MD \text{ sig.} / DSA \text{ sig.}$

So, $DSA_{\triangle ♃} * MD_{\odot}/DSA_{\odot} - MD_{\odot}$ becomes: $MD_{pp} - MD_{\odot}$.

We can see this on the picture. The RA (equatorial) meridian through the ⊙ crosses the primary path of the △♃ in point K. The distance from this point to the Meridian is the Meridian Distance of the ⊙. The Meridian distance of the proportional Point is the distance from the point PP on the graph to the Meridian.

On the picture $MD_{pp} - MD_{\odot}$ is the distance between points K and PP and lies on the primary path of the promittor, △♃.

Now, the last part of point 6 of Zoller's Alchabitius paraphrase is:

Subtract the result ($MD_{pp} - MD_{\odot}$) from ΔRA (if ΔRA > ΔOA).

ΔRA on the primary path of the promittor is the distance between the points △ ♃ and K. When we subtract from the K–△ ♃ distance (ΔRA) the K - PP distance ($MD_{pp} - MD_{\odot}$), we get PP –△ ♃ as a result.

And this is exactly the Placidian Directional Arc.

This concludes the graphical and the math proof that Alchabitius = Placidian Semi-Arc.

However, no matter how rigorous the math proof may be, people who are not math inclined, will not be convinced until we compute the direction in both algorithms

On page 56 Zoller computes the direction. He finds the Directional Arc to be 38.736 (38º44'11"). We will not be able to reproduce this result, because Zoller uses slightly different values for the RA of the points and for the AD of the Sun. Instead we will take the values of the intermediate variables from the program ‘Placidus’ and compute with them.

Computation per Alchabitius

Robert Zoller, 08:59:00 AM, 25 Jan. 1947, TimeZone= +5; Mount Vernon, New York: 73° W 50′ 15″= 40° N 54′ 45″

$RAMC = 259.94481$,
$RA_{\odot} = 307.1138$, $MD_{\odot} = 47.169$, $AD_{\odot} = -17.4412$, $DSA_{\odot} = 72.5588$,
$OA_{\odot} = 324.555$,
$RA_{\triangle ♃} = 354.6761$, $MD_{\triangle ♃} = 94.7313$, $AD_{\triangle ♃} = -1.99861$,
$DSA_{\triangle ♃} = 88.00138$, $OA_{\triangle ♃} = 356.6747$,

3rd point of Zoller’ algorithm:

$$\Delta RA = RA_{\triangle ♃} - RA_{\odot} = 354.6761 - 307.1138 = 47.5623$$

4th point of Zoller’ algorithm:

$$\Delta OA = OA_{\triangle ♃} - OA_{\odot} = 356.6747 - 324.555 = 32.11972$$

5th point of Zoller’ algorithm:

$$\Delta RA - \Delta OA = 47.5623 - 32.11972 = 15.44258$$

$$15.44258 * MD_{\odot} = 15.44258 * 47.169 = 728.41147$$

6th point of Zoller’ algorithm:

$$728.41147 / DSA_{\odot} = 728.41147 / 72.5588 = 10.0389$$

$\Delta RA - 10.0389 = 47.5623 - 10.0389$ **= 37.523, the DA of the direction.**

Computation per Placidus semi-arc

In this case the DA of the direction is $DA = MD_{\triangle ♃} - MD_{pp}$.[13]

$MD_{pp} = DSA_{\triangle ♃} * MD_{\odot} / DSA_{\odot} = 88.00138 * 47.169/72.5588 = 57.2079$.

$DA = MD_{\triangle ♃} - MD_{pp} = 94.7313 - 57.2079$ = **37.523, the DA of the direction**

The result for the directional arc is the same in both algorithms.

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[13] Look in my book *Placidian Classic (semi-arc) Primary Directions*, page 27 or case 16 of the interplanetary directions.

Dr. Jones' Methodology[1]

BOB MAKRANSKY

IN HIS books (particularly *Essentials of Astrological* Analysis) Dr. Marc Edmund Jones established a framework of metasymbolism to analyze the meanings of various factors in the natal horoscope (such as retrograde planets, aspects, planets in ruler/detriment, etc.). This system consists of three principles: preponderance, absence, and negative indication (which is a special case of absence).

When there is a preponderance of some factor in a natal chart (for example, a preponderance of retrograde planets, or of square aspects, or of planets conjunct critical degrees) the native's life is skewed at that point. What is shown is a weight, a self-consciousness, a sense of onus or burden, a heavy responsibility which the native must bear and bear up under. There is a depth and compulsion to act with thoroughness in this area of life, but also a heaviness and slowness. Even if the horoscope factor is nominally *good,* a preponderance of it becomes a source of imbalance in the life. For example, a preponderance of planets in their ruling signs comes on strong, is domineering and positive in its opinions—that is, liberates an unwieldy amount of energy and creates problems in the life.

When there is an absence of some factor in the natal horoscope, then in the area of life symbolized by that factor there is lightness, a freedom of action, and a lack of compulsion, which on the negative side can become a lack of motivation, interest, and understanding. The absence of some horoscope factor shows a freedom from responsibility, but with a concomitant lack of attunement to the environment.

By way of example, when there is a preponderance of retrograde planets (five or more) in the horoscope, the native is a slave to his impulses. He is a maverick who puts out the minimum amount of conformity necessary for survival in his social milieu. He is armored in his obstinacy, determined to carve out his own niche in life, on his own terms. As a result, his life tends to lack cohesion or direction—it has a patchy, makeshift quality which comes from living by feel rather than by plan. He has the burning need for emotional privacy, and can be impervious and rough in his handling of other people, because he's too bent upon his own inner vision and fancies to pay much mind to the sensibilities of others.

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[1] Previously published in *Considerations* VI: 3, an issue that is now out of print.

Conversely, an absence of retrograde planets in the horoscope gives a rather naive and hopeful outlook on life. This native has an unquestioning acceptance of rational and socially approved solutions. He avoids making impulsive errors by avoiding impulse, and is too easily swayed by logic, by his conscious mind, to put much stake in following his heart. He tries to base his behavior on abstract standards of fairness and reasonableness. He is overly compliant because he never feels he's standing on solid emotional ground; thus, others who are surer of what it is they want easily impose on him.

The precise definition of what constitutes a "preponderance" or "absence" is open to adjustment depending upon the particular horoscope factor under consideration. For rare phenomena (such as stationary planets), three out of ten planets in a chart fitting the criterion is enough to constitute preponderance. Similarly, for very common phenomena (such as the presence of aspects in a horoscope, where a complete absence is unheard of), half the statistically expected number can be considered an absence. The point is that what is being shown by preponderance is a weighting in a given direction, and by absence a lack of pull in that direction.

For example, when there is a preponderance of aspects in the horoscope (at least three times as many Ptolemaic aspects as the orb in degrees—for example, at least eighteen Ptolemaic aspects within 6° orbs), the native is critically dependent upon validation from other people for an assessment of his own worth. Since aspects are the *lines* that tie us to other people—compel us to seek their approval—a preponderance of aspects shows a native overly concerned with his images, with the impression he makes on others, with being *right.* Therefore, he is easily bent out of shape by rejection, and takes other people's reactions to him too much to heart. He lacks inner stability because his moods rise and fall with his current status in other people's eyes.

Conversely, an *absence* of aspects (less than the number of degrees in the allowable orb—that is, less than six aspects within 6° orbs) in the horoscope shows a relative freedom from worry about status in society. This native is not particularly concerned with, motivated by, or even consciously aware of what other people think of him. He is naive and uninhibited, and says whatever's on his mind. Others accept him because he accepts himself, is at ease within himself, and has a frank and natural manner. On the negative side, he can be headstrong, solipsistic, and aloof.

Now the third principle or metasymbolic technique for isolating the meaning of a horoscope factor is called *negative indication,* and is a special form of absence. It occurs when there is a well defined set of related horoscope factors (such as four triplicities, three quadruplicities, angular/succedent/cadent, etc.) and all but one of them are represented in the natal horoscope. Whatever is symbolized by the missing factor is emphasized in *a negative* way—that is, as a parody, an exaggeration of the symbolism, an intellectualized, artificial version constructed as if in compensation for a felt psychological lack or need. The interpretation is similar to that of the preponderance, but with a twist.

For example, an absence of planets in fire signs makes for a peppery, ornery, theatrical Prima Donna. This is in contrast to the aristocratic bearing and quiet air of self-assurance that characterizes the preponderance of planets in fire signs. Both the preponderance and the negative indication have a manner that is competent, dominating, and superior, but the preponderance assumes it where the negative indication asserts it.

An absence of planets in earth signs makes for a native who is busy and buzzing all the time, without actually accomplishing much. In contrast to the down-to-earth, practical, self-pacing of a person with preponderance in earth signs, this native is finicky, fastidious, and never quite comfortable with things. Both the preponderance and negative indication are thorough and conscientious, but the preponderance has a clear sense of the possible (what he is comfortably capable of), whereas the negative indication is over-reaching and over-exacting of both himself and other people.

An absence of planets in air signs makes for a native who talks a lot but doesn't say much of anything. Albeit sociable and gregarious, he is vague and uncommunicative on a feeling level, in contrast to the preponderance, which identifies someone who is be sharp, analytical, articulate, and tart. Both the preponderance and negative indication avidly seek relationships, but the preponderance has a clearly defined sense of who he is and what he stands for, where the negative indication is not actually comfortable with people, but goes through the motions of what he feels is expected of him.

An absence of planets in water signs makes for a native who is a cheerful, flighty busybody rather than actually sympathetic or helpful to anyone. This contrasts to the sense of conscience and obligation to life that characterizes someone with a preponderance in water signs. Both the preponderance and negative indication are intimate, candid, and direct, but the preponderance possesses an inner dignity where the negative indication tends to be prissy and perfunctory.

These few examples illustrate the usefulness and versatility of Dr. Jones' methodology. It not only provides us with a useful investigative tool for delineating the meaning of any horoscope factor, but it also gives us a technique which can be directly applied to the interpretation of a natal horoscope.

◆

Books Considered

The Ultimate Book on Stock Market Timing, Volume 4,
Solar-Lunar Correlations to Short-Term Trading Reversals
by **Raymond A. Merriman**
Seek-It Publications, PO Box 250012, West Bloomfield, MI 48325
soft cover, 8½" x 11", 240 pages, $95.00, 2003

IN THIS FOURTH book of his 5-volume series, Ray Merriman tackles short-term trading. He has analyzed the 14,950 market days between November 1942 and May 2002 and identified 1,039 days on which the Dow Jones Industrial Index "contained a high or low from which prices reversed at least 4%." He does the same for the past 16 years for the NASDAQ and Japanese Nikkei stock indices.

Merriman's analysis consists of sorting his data initially into twelve groups, identified by the ☉ in the twelve signs of the Zodiac. Then, within each of these, he notes the proportions of 4% turning days when the ☽, ☿ and ♀ were in each of the signs.

The value of this analysis is that when there is, for example, a transiting ☉-☽ sign combination associated in the past with frequent 4% price swings, it is likely to indicate a 1-2 day period when the direction of the market can change. As such it is an ideal time for short-term traders to change their investment position. Merriman demonstrates how this approach would have been successful on four of the five occasions when the ☉ and ☽ were in appropriate sign combinations in July and August 2002.

Would-be short-term traders will have no difficulty following the author's clear explanations. This book's cost is hefty but that is surely nothing by comparison to the advantage it promises. **—Ken Gillman**

Jesus and The Holy Shroud: An Astrologer's View
by **Ronald Laurence Byrnes**
1stBooks Library: www.1stbooks.com
soft cover, 203 pages, $16.50, 2002

ONE GETS THE distinct impression from the great scope of the subject matter of this book that Mr. Byrnes has been on a life-long odyssey in writing it. For not only does he present birth chart and crucifixion charts for Jesus, he also fathoms the events of the history of the Shroud of Turin, the purported burial cloth in which Jesus' body was wrapped, and connects the Shroud events astrologically with the birth and crucifixion charts to substantiate them beyond the intrinsic interpretive and predictive power he adduces for them in Jesus' personality, life mission, and life events. We learn that Mr. Byrnes graduated from college in 1964, came to astrology in 1965 in Berkeley, traveled in India, Italy, and England in 1967-68, commenced work on this book in 1969, wrote a rough draft in 1970, and published it in 2002. One notes from the Foreword and the bibliography that the large lacuna between 1970 and 2002 was largely taken up by the fathoming of the events of the Shroud of Turin, many of the important events of which only came to light from the late 1970s through the 1990s. His book is a vanguard work, to my knowledge, for I am not aware of a prior book on a chart for Jesus, let alone a tackling of this subject in conjunction with the Shroud of Turin.

This is a book that is clearly two books in one. Part I covers basic and intermediate astrological theory, while Part II is a presentation of the charts of Jesus and the history of the Shroud.

Concerning Part I, my initial reaction to viewing the table of contents of the book was that Mr. Byrnes had incorporated an introductory part in order to make his book understandable by a broader audience than just astrologers. (I thought this was an important consideration, on the grounds that there may exist a sizable number of religious people—whether religious leaders or lay from various religions—not conversant with astrology who may be interested in what he has to say concerning the astrology of Jesus.) However, on reading Part I it became clear that in addition to being merely a presentation of astrological theory, it is also a showcasing of the author's personal theories, including much new astrological theory—even suggesting how the 1/5, 1/7, 1/9, and 1/11 families of aspects mean different things depending, for example, on whether one is inspecting a 1/11, a 2/11, a 3/11, a 4/11, or a 5/11 aspect, and according to whether it is applying or separating. He sprinkles his well-written text with ideas from Carl Payne Tobey, Helena Blavatsky, Rodney Collin, Dane Rudhyar, and modernist theorists like Buckminster Fuller and Arthur M. Young. And he offers up his positions on controversial matters such as house division (he uses Placidus), true versus mean ☊ (he uses mean), and how the boundary of a Sabian Symbol Degree is defined (he takes 1°00'♈ as the start of the 2nd degree of ♈, breaking with Jones and Rudhyar, who take it as the end of the 1st degree of ♈). I need to pick one important nit in his information in Part I, which has a bearing on his findings in the chart for Jesus in Part II. Mr. Byrnes gives us his positions for the exaltation degrees, which come from an old astrological tradition and about which he makes a big point. From the *Encyclopedia of Astrology* by Nicholas DeVore and from the *Larousse Encyclopedia of Astrology* by Jean-Louis Brau, Helen Weaver, and Allan Edmands, these exaltation degrees are: ☉ 19° ♈, ☽ 3° ♉, ☿ 15° ♍, ♀ 27° ♓, ♂ 28° ♑, ♃ 15° ♋, ♄ 21° ♎. Yet Mr. Byrnes differs on three of these: ☉ 20° ♈, ☿ 16° ♍, and ♂ 27° ♑. I do not know if he made an error in transcription from the authorities, or if he differs based on his own investigation. The matter is not clear. In any event, I must praise his writing, his innovations and ideas in astrological theory, his synthesis of material and his novel pointers from astrology to areas in life, and I enjoyed this introductory section quite a bit. I can see that I would like to return to it as a reference, as it is full of thought-provoking ideas on astrology and in astrological concepts in relation to other intellectual fields. He has a good grasp of the astrological language, and I heartily recommend buying this book even if one does not have an interest in its main subject.

Concerning Part II, I think Mr. Byrnes falls down in both depth and length of discussion in his treatment of the Jesus charts, even while I grant that he has taken on a most difficult topic, one which is very difficult to tackle well. His treatment of the birth and crucifixion charts of Jesus is peremptory in tone, and due to the paucity and quality of the information he adduces, he cannot be said to have made a convincing case for his rectifications (date and time of day determinations). That said; I do admire his pioneering effort in his treatment of the intricate history of the Shroud, where he does a great job. And the historical evidence he uncovers could well amount to further rectification test evidence for Jesus' chart. This is important, because there are not many accurately known events for Jesus during his life.

Mr. Brynes' natal chart rectification proceeded from a purported record of Jesus' birth date reported in the Letters to the Editor section of *The Astrological Journal*, Spring 1966, page 17, by W. R. Allin of Nairobi, Kenya. Allin wrote that he was in All Saints' Cathedral in Nairobi and was: "…talking to Mr. H. Massie-Blomfield, an ex-governor of Sudan... now in his eighties. He records (in Vol. II. No. 12, December, 1960 of the *All Saints' Cathedral Herald*) that in December, 1918, as Deputy Military Governor of his district of Palestine, he was allowed to see the opening of the safe of the Samaritan Synagogue and the ancient scroll of the Talmud said to be 3,000 years old. With this sacred scroll was one containing in Hebrew and Arabic a brief account of the reign of each High Priest. Massie-Blomfield told me that the High Priests made brief notes of what took place during their term of office and he read in Arabic how, in the time of Caiaphas, a man came to Shechem called Jesus, son of Yusef, a carpenter and Miriam, his wife. He went to Jerusalem where he was crucified. Mr. Massie-Blomfield told me that he had read that Christ was born on (the date equivalent to) April 12, B.C. 7. This date is a Sunday... It is also the date of the heliacal rising of the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn. Thus it is almost certainly the date given to Herod by the Magi as the date of the first appearance of the ‘star’..."

Regarding the rectification of the time from this date Mr. Byrnes says "I have used every available technique for ascertaining an ascendant degree, from pure intuition to the working of Arabic Parts and the rectification of the intermediate cusps by Sabian Symbols." Mr. Byrnes apparently had hit upon the year 7 B.C. as the birth year of Jesus from an influential writer on Jesus, Dr. Hugh J. Schonfield, a modernist, revisionist historian. Of course about this time there began the bandwagon of belief amongst astrologers that the star of the Magi was nothing other than the ♃-♄ great mutation in the sign of ♓, this view representing a revisiting of Kepler's idea from the early 17th century. For the sake of interest, let us place Byrnes' birth date for Jesus alongside the exact longitudinal conjunction dates (Julian Calendar) of ♃ and ♄ in the year 7 B.C.: May 25, October 1, and December 5. The respective longitudes were: 20°57’♓, 17°24’♓ ℞, and 15°34’ ♓. Many astrologers have opted for a ☉ in ♓, which precedes or succeeds the span of these dates by months. And while on the subject, let's throw in John Addey's chart for Jesus, which is August 22, 7 B.C. Julian, which is between the first and the second conjunction (John Addey, *Selected Writings*). Addey gives an Ascendant of 0°30’♈ (UT is 17:47:02).

But let us return to Mr. Byrnes' chosen date of April 12, 7 B.C. The long-standing academically-accepted date is the year 4 B.C. But there are writers currently working with 2 B.C. and with 1 B.C. The date must fit with the event of the death of Herod, but this date itself has now been opened to question. This is an esoteric area, which involves conflicting ways of counting years, whether *de jure* or *civil*. And there have recently been found new editions of Josephus, the historian, giving different dates for Herod. On top of this there is recent information regarding lunar eclipses and this shows that the crucifixion was most likely in 33 AD, not 30 AD, which had been the academically accepted date. Finally, there is the statement in the Gospels that Jesus was around 30 when he was baptized, and then he lived 2 or 3 years from that point. Against this evidence, Mr. Brynes' following Dr. Schonfield's assertion that the crucifixion was on March 30, 36 A.D. Julian is problematic, for that makes Jesus aged 42 at the crucifixion.

All of this recent technical historical and astronomical information casts the enthusiasm for a 7 B.C. birth date in an altogether new, skeptical light. But whatever date one chooses to investigate, it seems to me that the only way to proceed in rectification is (1) to study progressions and transits (including planetary returns) of the natal chart to any future date and correlate these with events in the Christian world and (2) to study synastry between the hypothesized chart for Jesus and individuals' natal charts throughout history, matching the astrology with the known nature of the relationships. It is my judgement as a seasoned rectifier that any other approach to the determination of the chart for Jesus is just an exercise in self deception, as earnest and as devoted to Jesus and Christianity one might be.

I do not know whether Mr. Byrnes has read other literature on the dates of Herod, outside of Dr. Schonfield; perhaps Mr. Byrnes did his work on the Jesus dates before the more recent findings from the revisiting of Josephus and from the astronomy concerning the lunar eclipses. But one thing is pretty clear to me regarding Mr. Byrnes' liking the date April 12, 7 B.C. And that is that the ☉ position is 19°51' ♈, hence this is one of his exaltation degrees (20° ♈ as I had indicated earlier.) But would the date April 12, 7 B.C. retain as much power for him when he sees that April 11, 7 B.C. is the correct date of the exaltation of the ☉? On the other hand, in fairness to him, many hunters after the date and year of Jesus' birth have come up with all kinds of astronomical theories to delimit the date space. Certainly Mr. Byrnes is being consistent with longstanding astrological theory and is on better theoretical ground when he insists on the importance of the ♃-♄ great mutation (which only occurs every 794 years), especially its being in ♓ at this moment in history, which fits with Christianity. And his choosing not just a near conjunction date, but also the date for the heliacal rising of the conjunction is more in keeping with the astrological indications than others I have seen who have worked with 7 B.C. as the birth date of Jesus. Perhaps Mr. Byrnes would find equally compelling (or better) Sabian Symbol Degrees if he were to back his date up one day for the birth date of Jesus.

I surmise that Mr. Byrnes found the Ascendant for April 12, 7 B.C. in the following way. (He does not give us a straight forward rendering of this process in his book, thus my surmising here.) First he may have intuited ♏ rising for the testimony it gives to "the extreme of crime and corruption on the one hand and absolute discipleship and martyrdom on the other" (page 105). He then noticed that the first photographic time-exposure chart of the Holy Shroud of Turin (May 28, 1898, 11:13 pm CET, Turin, Italy: 45N0, 7E42) has 19°57'♏ culminating. He then thought that the MC of this chart was determined by the Ascendant of the birth chart for Jesus, thus he got an Ascendant for the birth chart. He then fine tuned this chart by consideration of the Sabian Symbol Degree meanings for the MC and the intermediate cusps. In this way he ended up with the birth chart as 19°02' ♏ ASC, 26°00' ♌ MC. UT is 18:19:02. The NS date is April 10, 7 B.C. (Note that this is also called year -6 in astronomical nomenclature.) It must be noted that Mr. Byrnes does not use Bethlehem for the birth place. He uses a location near modern-day Nazareth. The Gospels of Luke and Mathew tell us that Jesus' parents went from Nazareth, where they lived, to Bethlehem to pay the tax while Mary was pregnant, giving birth to Jesus once in Bethlehem. But Mr. Byrnes discounts this, preferring to base his information on John 7:41, which states a Galilean birth, he thinks. Mr. Byrnes takes the coordinates for Jesus' birth as 32N43 and 35E15. Jerusalem is at 31N43 and 35E12, hence a full degree of latitude south of his Galilee location. At 19°00'♏ rising, this changes the Ascendant by only some 22' arc.

I could not possibly summarize Mr. Byrnes' extensive information concerning the history of the Shroud, it is extensive and he has even correlated it with the Holy Grail in an appendix. Mr. Byrnes has obviously spent lots of dedicated time studying the Shroud and many factors connected with it from the time of Jesus up to the present, and it is invaluable information to be able to refer to when studying different charts of Jesus. And my, oh my, are there many! Let me end by reiterating that his book is worth the price just for Part I if you are of the theoretical, questioning sort of astrologer. And while I dispute the correctness of his Jesus chart, his Shroud evidence is truly worth taking a look at. It has the ring of truth to me. **—Larry Ely**

WE ARE SURVIVORS. *(For those born with ♇ in ♋...)* We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, videos and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens, before dishwashers, tumble driers, microwave ovens, and air conditioners … and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be?) We thought 'fast food' was what you ate in Lent; a 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat, and 'crumpet' we had for tea. We existed before househusbands, computer dating and 'sheltered accommodation' was where you waited for the bus.

We were before day-care centers, group homes and disposable diapers. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, artificial hearts, word processors, or young men wearing earrings. For us 'time sharing' meant togetherness, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts, and 'software' wasn't a word.

When ♇ was in ♋ 'Made in Japan' meant junk, the term 'making out' referred to how you did in your exams, 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt, and 'going all the way' meant staying on the train to the end of the line. In our day, cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', 'grass' was mown, 'coke' was drunk on hot days, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you ate on Sundays, and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock Music' was a fond mother's lullaby; a 'gay person' was the life and soul of the party, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment or help for someone in trouble.

We who were born with ♇in ♋ must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed and the adjustment we have had to make. No wonder there is a generation gap today…

BUT by the grace of God … we have survived!